AN

HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DEDUCTION

OF THE

ORIGIN OF COMMERCE,

FROM THE EARLIEST ACCOUNTS.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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AN
HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DEDUCTION
OF THE
# ORIGIN OF COMMERCE,
FROM THE EARLIEST ACCOUNTS.
CONTAINING
AN HISTORY
OF THE
GREAT COMMERCIAL INTERESTS
OF THE
BRITISH EMPIRE.
TO WHICH IS PREFIXED,
AN INTRODUCTION,
EXHIBITING
A VIEW OF THE ANCIENT AND MODERN STATE OF EUROPE;
OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR COLONIES; AND OF THE COMMERCE, SHIPPING,
MANUFACTURES, FISHERIES, &c.
OF
GREAT-BRITAIN AND IRELAND;
AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE LANDED INTEREST.
WITH AN
APPENDIX,
CONTAINING
THE MODERN POLITICO-COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES OF EUROPE.
CAREFULLY REVISED, CORRECTED, AND CONTINUED TO THE PRESENT TIME.
IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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AN

HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DEDUCTION

OF THE

ORIGIN OF COMMERCE,

FROM THE EARLIEST ACCOUNTS, &c.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

Succeſſion of PRINCES *in this Century.*

Emperors of Germany.	
LEOPOLD, to	1705
JOSEPH, his eldeſt Son, to	1711
CHARLES VI. his Brother, to Oct. 20.	1740
CHARLES VII. of Bavaria, to	1745
FRANCIS of Lorraine, to	1765
JOSEPH II. King of Hungary and Bohemia, to	

Emperors of Ruſſia.	
PETER, the Great, to	1724
KATHERINE, to	1727
PETER II. to	1729
ANNE (of Courland) to	1740
JOHN (an Infant) depoſed	1741
ELIZABETH, to 5th of January	1762
PETER III. (of Holſtein) to	1762
CATHERINE II. to	

Kings of Great Britain.	
WILLIAM III. to	1702
ANNE, to	1714
GEORGE I. to	1727
GEORGE II. to	1760
GEORGE III. 25th Oct. to	

Kings of Sweden.	
CHARLES XII. to	1718
ULRICA, his Siſter, to	1720
FREDERIC, of Heſſe, to	1751
ADOLPHUS FREDERIC, to	1771
GUSTAVUS III. to	

Kings of France.	
LOUIS XIV. to	1715
LOUIS XV. his Great Grandſon, (crowned in 1722,) to	1774
LOUIS XVI. to	

Kings of Denmark.	
FREDERIC IV. to	1730
CHRISTIAN VI. to	1746
FREDERIC V. to	1766
CHRISTIERN VII. to	

Kings of Poland.	
AUGUSTUS II. to	1733
AUGUSTUS III. to	1763
STANISLAUS AUGUSTUS II. to	

Kings of Spain.	
PHILIP V. to	1746
FERDINAND VI. his Son, to	1759
CHARLES III. his Brother, to	

Kings of Portugal.	
PETER, to	1704
JOHN V. his Son, to	1704
JOSEPH, his Son, to	1777
MARIE and DON PEDRO, to	

Kings of Pruſſia.	
FREDERIC I. the firſt King, Jan. 1701, to	1713
FREDERIC WILLIAM II. his Son, from 1713, to	1740
CHARLES FREDERIC III. his Son, to	1786
FREDERIC IV. Nephew to Frederic III. to	

THE CHARACTER OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

1701 POSSIBLY ſome may judge it ſuperfluous to draw the characteriſtic of the age we live in: yet as it is merely our province to treat of its commercial ſtate, we hope to be excuſed in briefly obſerving, that much might be ſaid to diſtinguiſh this century even from that immediately preceding it, and much more from remoter ones, were it not that the entire ſcope of this part of our work renders ſuch a taſk quite ſuperfluous.

After the airy hopes, proſpects, and expectations of all the preceding century, and of half of the preſent one, concerning new diſcoveries of ſhorter courſes to the rich Aſiatic countries, either by the north-weſt or north-eaſt ſuppoſed paſſages; and after ſo many repeated attempts, more eſpecially by Britiſh ſubjects, there ſeemed now and for ſome time paſt to be a general acquieſcence of the impracticability of either of thoſe ſuppoſed paſſages.

A. D.
1701 Concerning that by the north-weſt, it has been already remarked, that although we have had ſome probable ſigns and tokens from ſeveral of the explorators, that there is a communication either above or under ground, between the great bay of Hudſon and the ſeas of Northern Aſia; yet, that probably ſuch a paſſage, even though above ground, may be in ſo frozen a climate as to be quite impracticable. The ſame may be juſtly remarked of the more than barely ſuppoſed north-eaſt paſſage: ſince though it ſeems now to be admitted that the ſea of Nova Zembla communicates with the Aſiatic one of China and Japan, yet the firſt-named ſea, and alſo the Streights of Waygatz, being more than once in vain attempted, thoſe icy ſeas ſeem to have put an end to all further attempts that way. It is indeed ſaid, and perhaps with ſome probability, that from ſome remote north-eaſt parts of Ruſſian Tartary, leſs frozen than the other ſeas, a naval communication may hereafter be found practicable with the ſeas of China and Japan: but what would that avail even to Ruſſia itſelf, and much leſs the reſt of Europe, if the merchandize of China, &c. can be brought cheaper by long-ſea to Europe, as at preſent, than by ſo long and rugged a land carriage as from North-eaſtern Tartary to the ports of Archangel or Peterſburg. The ſouth-weſt paſſage to India, round the further point of South America, has already been practiſed thirteen times from Europe; but to no avail for an Aſiatic commerce, much eaſier, ſafer, and ſooner carried on by the common route. The diſcoveries, made long ſince, of the coaſts of New Holland, New Zealand, and New Guinea, of what benefit have they ever been to the Dutch, their principal diſcoverers: ſo far has the Dutch Eaſt India Company been from ſettling thoſe countries, though lying not far ſouth of their Javan and Molucca territories, that, if Colonel Purry's narrative be true, his ſingle propoſal for their ſettling on them, (elſewhere related) occaſioned his being obliged to leave Holland. Either that company thought, as others have likewiſe:

Firſt, That they are already poſſeſſed of more territories than they can well manage; or, elſe,

Secondly, They apprehended, that their further diſcoveries there might excite other European nations to attempt ſettlements thereon, who might prove dangerous neighbours to them: or,

Thirdly, That new Spice Iſlands and countries might thereby be diſcovered, which would undoubtedly depreciate the old ones, and which alſo might fall into the hands of other nations: or,

Laſtly, That their own people of Java, &c. might be tempted to deſert them, for thoſe new countries. But although theſe might be plauſible reaſons with that company, they can be none to other European nations for not attempting ſettlements on thoſe coaſts; which, ſooner or later, may probably be effected, more eſpecially as they are not quite deſtitute of certain of the neceſſaries of life, nor of human creatures, who, perhaps, may be more numerous in the inland parts, where neceſſaries may likewiſe more abound, and, perhaps alſo, the more precious metals and gems, and various other materials for commerce.

Africa's inland and more centrical parts are at preſent leſs known to all Chriſtendom than they were to Carthage two thouſand years ago. Hints have been given in our own times, by different authors, of its being practicable to form a correſpondence, and even to make ſettlements

1701 ments there, by means of the great river Niger, or Senegal, where the precious metals, ivory, and many drugs, &c. are confidently ſaid to abound.

The independence of America will be a moſt important object of commercial conſideration in the courſe of this century; and the new poſition in which Ireland ſtands, in conſequence of the repeal of the declaratory act of George I. relative to the legiſlation of that kingdom, will claim a very particular attention. The change that has taken place in the Britiſh oriental poſſeſſions will be an object of conſiderable magnitude: the voyages of Captain Cooke and other circumnavigators will afford materials very intereſting to commerce; while the commercial alliance with France, and other beneficial regulations, &c. reſpecting the trade of the Britiſh empire, will compoſe a diſtinguiſhed feature of the concluding part of this hiſtory.

Commerce is a miſtreſs more eagerly courted by almoſt all nations in our age than in any preceding one: and it is highly probable, that, even before the concluſion of the preſent century, many new lights may be ſtruck out for the further improvement of it: more eſpecially as our nobility and landed gentry are, at length, clearly convinced, that the increaſe of our national commerce is in effect, but another phraſe for expreſſing the advancement of the landed intereſt, wealth, and felicity, of Great Britain and Ireland.

There were two particular points in the act of the ninth and tenth of King William, before-mentioned, under the year 1698, For ſettling the Eaſt India Trade, which proved afterwards extremely embarraſſing, viz.

I. The giving leave to all corporations (the Bank of England excepted) to ſubſcribe in their corporate capacity; by which permiſſion the old Eaſt India Company got into the new one in the manner already related.

II. The inſerting the words, or any, after the word all, in the clauſe of that act, giving the King a power to incorporate the contributors into a Joint-ſtock Company: thereby leaving room for ſome of the contributors of the General Society (as proved actually the caſe) to decline coming into the new Joint-ſtock Company, and, inſtead thereof, to go on as ſeparate traders to India.

Both which points might eaſily have been prevented, eſpecially that which is firſt-named; as an equivalent might have been aſſigned to the old company for their forts, privileges, &c. and the ſeparate traders might alſo have been bought off, they amounting only to ſeven thouſand two hundred pounds principal, with their annual fund of five hundred and ſeventy-ſix pounds at eight per cent. who choſe to trade on the bottom of that act ſolely and ſeparately: whereby the capital ſtock of this new corporation was in fact but one million nine hundred and ninety-two thouſand eight hundred pounds, and their annual fund but one hundred and fifty-nine thouſand four hundred and twenty-four pounds. Which ſeparate traders did afterwards give much trouble to the new company, till by a law of the next reign we ſhall ſee an end was put to them, and both companies conſolidated into the preſent United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

In this ſame year, the party humours were become more fierce between the two Eaſt India Companies; it being about the time that a new Parliament was to take place. Both companies ſtrove to gain the court as well as the new members of the Houſe of Commons.

The

A. D.
1701 The ſpirit of this time may in ſome meaſure be ſeen, by many warm pamphlets then publiſhed; ſuch as, "The Freeholders Plea againſt Stock-jobbing of Elections of Parliament "Men. Quarto, 1701. The Villainy of Stock-jobbers detected, &c. Quarto, 1701." And many more. And at the two coffee-houſes, near the Royal Exchange, which ſtill retain the names of Garraway's and Jonathan's, affairs were in thoſe pamphlets made ſo important, as to be ſaid then to prepare and direct the greateſt buſineſs of the nation. Both companies were at this time reckoned to have no leſs than ſixty ſhips at ſea; and great was the emulation at their public ſales. Theſe conſiderations made the government ſee the abſolute neceſſity of compoſing their fierce contentions by a coalition, which was at length complied with, though not formally concluded before King William died.

We have already mentioned the eſtabliſhment of a new council of commerce by the French King, in the year 1700; and we ſhall now ſee how great a progreſs this famous new inſtitution had made in little more than about one year after its eſtabliſhment, in order to arrive at a perfect knowledge of the true commercial intereſts of France. All which we have gathered from the memorials of this council preſented to the King's royal council, in this year 1701: and, as it will diſplay the great judgment, zeal, and diligence of that council and nation at this time for the improvement of their commerce and colonies, it will, alſo, afford us many very uſeful and intereſting hints and notices, for putting us on our guard againſt the growing commerce of ſuch an active and enterprizing people.

Fas eſt et ab hoſte doceri.

——— Nothing more fit.
Than from her enemies to learn wit.

I. In their memorial concerning their Guinea Company and their Weſt India colonies, they give us the then preſent ſtate of their American iſlands, &c.

"They juſtly remark, that the commerce to Guinea has ſo cloſe a relation to that of their "Weſt India iſles, that the latter cannot ſubſiſt without the former." And we need ſcarcely add, that this remark holds equally juſt with reſpect to our own Guinea and Weſt India trade.

"By thoſe trades," ſays this new council, "we have deprived our competitors in traffic "of the great profits they drew from us." Meaning our ſugar, cotton, and ginger trade. "And may put ourſelves into a condition, by their example, to draw profit, in our turn, from "them; and eſpecially from the Engliſh.

"That we may increaſe thoſe trades conſiderably; as that nation," *i. e.* England, "in "their iſlands, with leſs advantage than we, and in territories of leſs extent, as well as in "much leſs time, have found means to employ annually above five hundred ſail of ſhips, "whilſt we do not, without great difficulty, employ one hundred in the ſame trade.

"Every one is ſenſible of the benefits of navigation; and that the happineſs and glory of a "ſtate very much depend on it." No one is ignorant, that the navigation of France owes "all its increaſe and ſplendor to the commerce of its iſlands. And that it cannot be kept up "nor enlarged otherwiſe than by this commerce, which is more beneficial than all others of "the long voyages which are undertaken by the French; becauſe carried on without the exportation of money, as well as without the aid of foreign goods and manufactures; ſo as "none but the ſubjects of France reap the profit of it."

A. D. 1701 The conſiderable linen manufacture of France, enabled the French memorialiſt to make this remark: and it is to be hoped, Britain and Ireland will ſoon be enabled at home to ſupply the ſortments of linen drapery for our Weſt India iſles.

Next follows a brief repreſentation of the preſent ſtate of the French American iſles, viz.

" 1. The ſmall iſland, with the terra firma of Cayenne" (on the coaſt of Guiana, in about five degrees of north latitude) " comes firſt in view. Its coaſts are about ſixty leagues in extent; though not above twelve are inhabited.—Its ſoil very good, and its ſugars near equal " to the white ſugars of Braſil.—It has not above ſix hundred white people, and about two " thouſand negroes. So that this large tract of land is almoſt uninhabited.—And being ſituated in very near the parallel of the Moluccas, where the fine ſpices grow, it is believed it " might be eaſy to cultivate them there; and thereby ſave the purchaſing of them from the " Dutch. The rather, in that the Portugueſe, on this ſide of the river of Amazons, in a ſituation more diſtant from the equinoctial line, have cinnamon." This, however, is of a baſtard kind, and worth very little.

" 2. Granada, near Martinique, is about twenty-five leagues in circuit. Its white inhabitants about two hundred, and negroes ſix hundred: produces ſugar, excellent indigo, cotton, &c. Its ſoil is good, and the colony might be conſiderably augmented.

" 3. Martinique, or Martinico, is the principal colony.—About ſixty leagues in circuit; " has a good ſoil, abounding in ſugar and cocoa, with ſome indigo, cotton, &c.—It had " formerly three thouſand five hundred men bearing arms, and ſixteen thouſand negroes."—Now, in our days, thought to have more than quadruple that number.—" It has three good " harbours, ſeveral good roads for ſhipping, and two ſmall unwalled towns, with a good fort " at Cul de ſac Royal." How vaſtly is this iſle improved and fortified ſince that time.

" 4. Guadaloupe has a pretty good ſoil, producing fine ſugar, cotton, and ginger.—It is " not peopled;"—(how different is the caſe in our days, as we have very lately experienced)—" though it had formerly one thouſand five hundred men bearing arms, and eight thouſand " negroes.

" 5. The ſoil of Marigalante is pretty good. It produces ſugar, indigo, cotton, and ginger. It was taken in the laſt war by the Engliſh, who afterward abandoned it; though it " has not been able to recover itſelf; having as yet but three or four ſugar plantations.

" 6. Santa Cruz had formerly ſix hundred men bearing arms, and many ſugar plantations. " It was abandoned laſt war, becauſe difficult to be kept, and its inhabitants tranſported to St. " Domingo. Yet this iſle is a very good one, producing ſugar, indigo, and cotton; has a " good and ſafe harbour, and a very good baſon for careening of ſhips." The French have ſince ſold this iſland to the King of Denmark for near ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling money, according to ſome accounts.

" 7. The laſt colony is St. Domingo, or Hiſpaniola; about five hundred leagues in circuit. The one half of it is poſſeſſed by France, from Cape Francois to the iſle of Vaches, " and the Spaniards have the other half." (We have elſewhere related how France firſt ſettled here.) " At Cape Francois there is a good port, nine hundred men bearing arms, and " two thouſand negroes.—Leogane's diſtrict is conſiderable.—It is the ſeat of the French governor and ſovereign courts.—It had two thouſand men bearing arms, and fifteen thouſand " negroes.—Petit Guavis has a good port; had ſix hundred whites, and two thouſand negroes. " —There are ſome other iſles," ſays this Council, " as Les Haintes, St. Martin, and St. " Bartholomew; but of very little importance, and almoſt uninhabited."

A. D.

1701 After reflections on thoſe iſles being badly conducted by a company, and of the ſelfiſhneſs, &c. of excluſive companies in general, they add, " it is not the Canada Company's fault too, that that colony is not entirely ruined. It is," ſay they, " a moſt certain maxim,—That nothing but competition and liberty in trade can render commerce beneficial to the ſtate. And that all monopolies, or traffic appropriated to companies excluſive of others, are inconceivably burthenſome and pernicious to it." Next they condemn " the Guinea Company, as enhancing the price of negroes.—And that, in time of war, like the dog in the manger, they would neither carry negroes from Guinea themſelves, nor ſuffer others ſo to do, being poſſeſſed of excluſive powers.—That the many prizes taken during the laſt war from the Engliſh, have ſhewn to France how rich and uſeful that commerce is.—Wherefore they urge the abolition of all companies.—Alſo the lowering the duty on ſugar, and the permitting of French ſhips to carry that commodity to foreign ports directly." (Both which, to our coſt, has been ſince effected.) " About forty years ago," (*i. e.* about the year 1661) ſays this memorial, " the French were little verſed in commerce and navigation : it was therefore then thought neceſſary to form companies, for engaging them to beat out tracks of commerce for the King's ſubjects, which then were unknown to them.—Yet ſuch excluſive grants ought only to be for a limited number of years." (Several ſuch, however, do exiſt in France even to this day.) They go on to inveigh againſt ſuch excluſive grants ; ſuch as,

" Firſt, That to the port of Marſeilles, having the ſole trade to the Levant.

" Secondly, The Eaſt India Company.

" Thirdly, The prohibiting of foreign raw ſilk to be carried to Niſmes, Tours, Paris, &c. till it had paſſed through Lyons ; thereby tending only to make it dearer.

" Fourthly, Divers farms of certain merchandize in trade, &c. deſtructive to the freedom of commerce."

In treating of the trade of France to Spain, we learn the infinite quantity of merchandize of all kinds then carried thither.—Concerning which country, (Spain) they truly remark, " that the Spaniards, who have within themſelves wool, ſilk, oil, wine, with an excellent ſoil, producing many things proper for the ſuſtenance of life, and for the eſtabliſhing of noble manufactures ; and are in no want of good ports both in the Ocean and Mediterranean ; do, nevertheleſs, neglect all thoſe advantages.—Whence it follows, that they ſtand in need of the aſſiſtance of other nations, who thereby exhauſt her of her gold and ſilver, and fetch away her raw materials for their own manufactures ; as the raw ſilk of Valencia, Granada, Murcia, &c. to France.—The wool of Caſtile, Arragon, Navarre, Leon, &c. to England, Holland, France, and Italy ; for the very manufactures with which they afterwards ſupply Spain.—That, in return for the French manufactures, &c. ſhipped for Cadiz, and thence in the galeons to Peru and Mexico, they have cochineal, indigo, Vigonia wool, hides, &c. and (in peaceable times, over and above, before the laſt wars) they received in money a balance of eighteen or twenty millions of livres, and by the flotas ſeven or eight millions more.—But," ſay they, " for ſome years paſt, ſince the Engliſh, Dutch, Hamburghers, and others, have imitated ſome of our manufactures, it is certain that our returns," (*i. e.* the balance in favour of France) " are reduced to a ſmall matter.—They wiſh his Catholic Majeſty" (King Philip V.) " would lay aſide entirely the Spaniſh garb," (which is never altered) " and introduce French faſhions ;" (this has been a harveſt to France in almoſt every

country

A. D. 1701 country of Europe) “ and aboliſh the uſe of Engliſh bays, ſo much worn in the Spaniſh do- “ minions, both in Europe and America, &c. for the benefit of France.”

In ſpeaking of the French Levant trade, they ſay, “ that the Engliſh carry on that trade “ with much more advantage than the French, their woollen cloths being better and cheaper. “ The Engliſh alſo carry to the Levant, lead, pewter, copperas, and logwood, which are “ goods they are maſters of; together with a great deal of pepper; and, that they may not “ drain their country of its gold and ſilver, they alſo take in dry fiſh of their own catching, “ ſugar of their own colonies, and other goods of their own product, which they ſell on the “ coaſts of Portugal, Spain, and Italy, for pieces of eight, which they carry to the Levant to “ make up a ſtock ſufficient for purchaſing their homeward cargoes.—Upon this plan, it would “ be more advantageous for France to permit her ports on the ocean to carry on this trade di- “ rectly to the Levant, without being obliged, ever ſince the year 1669, to unlade at Mar- “ ſeilles on their return, under pretence of preventing their bringing in the plague; which “ has obliged them to relinquiſh that trade entirely. And by the edict of 1685, twenty per “ cent. was laid on all Levant merchandize imported, for preventing the weſtern ports from “ being ſupplied therewith, as they had before been, from England and Holland.—Thus “ Marſeilles alone thrives in this commerce; although by its being a free port,—by its nearer “ ſituation to the Levant, and by her ſettled correſpondence there,—Marſeilles would always “ have advantages enough over the ports of the ocean, without the diſtaſteful and impolitic “ excluſive trade.”

To all which the Deputy from Marſeilles replied,

Firſt, “ The towns on the ocean can neither in themſelves, nor in their neighbourhood, “ find conſumption for divers groſs merchandize which the Marſeilles ſhips are obliged to “ take in for making up their lading.

Secondly, “ The duty of twenty per cent. was laid, as above, for preventing the Engliſh “ and Dutch Levant goods from being run into France, by the ports of Dunkirk and “ Rouen.

Thirdly, “ Marſeilles has within herſelf and her neighbouring provinces, all kinds of ma- “ nufactures and aſſortments proper for the Levant trade, &c.” To this the Deputies from the ports on the ocean replied, by denying moſt of the allegations of Marſeilles. And ſo the diſpute ended for that time.

We have too much ground to lament the great increaſe of the French Levant commerce, and the decreaſe of our Turkey Company's commerce, ſince the Memorial of that Council.

This new board further repreſented to the King's Council, (after declaring, that it was no derogation from nobility—*i. e.* in the Engliſh ſenſe, from being a gentleman,—to be a wholeſale merchant, though not a retailer; and that gentlemen, who are merchants, ſhould for the future in all aſſemblies precede other merchants.) “ That the appellation of Merchant being “ too general and extenſive,” (Marchands, in France, ſignifying retailers, as well as what we in England properly call merchants; as, marchand-drapier, for a woollen-draper, &c.) “ it “ is neceſſary to ſettle a diſtinction;—and that thoſe who trade by wholeſale by ſea or land, “ be named Negociants, and that retailers only be called Merchants: and no retailer to take “ the name of Negociant, under a pecuniary penalty; and a like penalty on mechanics ſtiling “ themſelves merchants.”

That board further propoſed, “ the ſuppreſſing the duty of fifty ſols per ton, as far as con- “ cerns the ſhipping of the northern crowns, thereby to allure them to trade with France, on

“ as

1701 “as advantageous a footing as the Dutch do, who had that duty remitted by the peace of Ryſwich. That the principal end for laying on that duty, was, to confine the coaſting navigation to French ſhipping alone, which had before been wholly carried on by foreign bottoms, much to the prejudice of France. But as it alſo affected the voyages of the Engliſh and Dutch to France, thoſe two nations were obliged to lay a like duty on French ſhips coming into their ports.

“It was very provident of the Dutch to obtain a remiſſion of that duty, ſeeing, by the French cuſtom-houſe books it appeared, that the Dutch had poſſeſſion of almoſt all the commerce of France to thoſe northern nations: that duty, before the Dutch were exempted, yielding ſeven hundred thouſand livres yearly, but now only one hundred thouſand.—That the moderate duties in Holland gave the Dutch conſiderable advantages; as does alſo their good huſbandry in their navigation, ſcarcely imitable by any other nation. Thus do they retain navigation and trade to themſelves, and get into their hands the effects of other nations, ſelling them again to great profit. By ſuch methods they have made their provinces the ſtorehouſe of Europe, from whence other nations are obliged to furniſh themſelves.” (A good view this of the grounds of Holland's being ſo great a ſtorehouſe.) “In brief, the Dutch having thus made themſelves maſters of the inland trade of France, by the help of Refugees,” (ſettled in Holland) “and by commiſſions from the new converts,” (*i. e.* the Proteſtants of France profeſſing the Catholic religion) “and the factors they have in all our ports, they there ſell goods cheaper than even the wholeſale merchants of France can do; and are enabled to ſupply the French retailers as well as the northern nations, with aſſortments of goods. So that, whilſt this is the caſe, no wholeſale buſineſs can be managed by the French, nor any great commerce carried on directly between the French and the northern nations.

“For all which reaſons, this board propoſes, to ſuppreſs the ſaid duty of fifty ſols per ton.

“Or elſe, to prevent the entrance into France of all commodities of the north, which ſhall have been before landed in any other country, and ſhall not be brought hither directly from the place of their growth or manufacture.”

To all which the Deputies from Nantes replied:

“That the Hollanders trade to the Baltic was ſo well ſettled, that they will ever govern the prices of all merchandize going to, or coming from, the north. Becauſe, carrying thither their own manufactures and merchandize, and eſpecially their ſpices, of which the northern people are very fond, they can afford to take off the corn, timber, iron, copper, flax, hemp, &c. of the north, at high rates, and yet they are generally cheaper at Amſterdam than in the places they are brought from; becauſe of the great gains they” (the Amſterdammers) “make by the aſſortments they carry to the north.—And the Dutch commerce to Portugal is likewiſe on the ſame footing. For theſe, and ſuch-like reaſons,” ſaid the Nantois, “we fear we cannot depend on our being regularly ſupplied with every thing regularly from the north.—The Dutch, moreover, take off very great quantities of our wines and brandies, which they brew, mix, and fit to the taſte of the northern people.—Theſe reflections are applicable to Hamburg as well as Holland, which city is likewiſe a ſtaple or ſtorehouſe for all the trade of the north, and is uſually very helpful to us in taking off our commodities, and in ſupplying us with what we want. Another powerful reaſon is, the

“frequent

A. D. 1701 " frequent alteration of our coin, which abſolutely prevents foreigners from ſending us their " ſhips and merchandize."

To all which, the other Deputies of this board replied, in ſubſtance:

" That it was plain thoſe of Nantes owned the evils complained of; particularly, that the " retailers in France carry on a diſadvantageous trade with the Dutch.—And that it is certainly more ſure and profitable to us to ſell our goods at home, than to carry them to the northern people to ſell. In the firſt caſe, it is we who give the law; in the other, we receive " it.—No merchant is ignorant of the effects of this difference; the one being ever profitable; " the other very uncertain, and often very pernicious, and the common ſource of bankruptcies." They add, a little further: " We have heretofore ſeen five thouſand foreign ſhips " come into the kingdom to take them off," (*i. e.* the native product of France,) " but our " being deprived of trade with the Engliſh, and our duty of fifty ſols per ton, have interrupted this great commerce."

Yet, with this otherwiſe ſagacious Board's leave, that ſeeming advantage of foreigners coming to ſell their goods in our ports, is really but a ſhort-ſighted one; ſince the advantages accruing to a nation:——

I. By the freight of ſhips which carry out their own, and which go to fetch the goods of other nations.

II. By the immenſe quantity of proviſions conſumed therein.

III. By the many trades and workmen ſupported by fitting out the ſhips.

IV. By the nurſery of ſailors, and, in conſequence, the increaſe of naval power, which thoſe five thouſand ſhips would produce, were they French, are of infinitely greater advantage than that one conſideration by them before-named. It muſt, however, be admitted, that as moſt of the merchandizes of France are periſhable, this poſition of their new Board of Commerce, is, perhaps, more applicable to France than to any other nation in Europe.

In further anſwer to thoſe of Nantes, this new Council of Commerce " diſallows, that " corn and other commodities of the north are ſold cheaper in Holland than in the places " from whence they are fetched.—For," ſay they, " this never happens but when the quantities imported into Holland are ſo large that they exceed the conſumption or demand for " them: in this, therefore," ſay they, " there is nothing extraordinary, being the caſe every " where elſe.

V. " As they plead only for having the northern goods brought in alone, and directly from " the places of their growth and manufacture, without being firſt landed in any other country, they cannot believe that the Dutch will, on France's making ſuch a regulation, ſuffer " above four thouſand ſhips, which they employ between France and the northern nations, " to lye rotting in their ports:—But rather than not be employed, will let them fetch the northern merchandize directly from thence into the ports of France, as now propoſed."

Beſide the ſaid objections of the Deputy of Nantes, he of Marſeilles urged, " That the " voyage from Dantzick, or even from Copenhagen, to Marſeilles, is too long for a ſhip to " go and come with certainty in one ſeaſon, conſidering the ice, and the long nights: and " that therefore there is no avoiding the uſe of *entreports*," (*i. e.* middle-way, or half-way ports) " for the trade of Marſeilles."—This remark puts us in mind of what we noted in the preceding ſixteenth century, concerning Antwerp's fitneſs for the general ſtaple, ſtore-houſe, or *entreport* for the commodities of both the northern and ſouthern nations, founded on this

1701 objection touching Marſeilles, that the voyage from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and back again, in the ſame ſummer, is rather too long to be certainly or generally relied on.

The Deputy from Bayonne objected, “ That their commerce with their neighbours of “ Spain, could not be continued in competition with the Dutch, had they not the liberty of “ ſupplying themſelves from *entreports* at ſeaſonable times, as they have occaſion, with wax, “ cocoa nuts, &c.”

The Deputy of Nantes, among other things, further replied, “ That it is to be feared this “ novelty may confirm the Engliſh in their obſtinacy of continuing their high excluſive duties “ on French goods. And that while that commerce ſubſiſted with England,” (for at this “ time the near approach of a war interrupted it) “ we” *i. e.* the French, “ conſtantly fur“ niſhed them with the merchandize of France, to the value of many millions more than we “ conſumed of theirs. He alſo further urged againſt this propoſed regulation, the conſidera“ tion already mentioned, that the merchandize of France are almoſt all periſhable ; and that “ therefore we cannot be too circumſpect for cultivating a good underſtanding with foreign na“ tions, which ſurely is not to be done by preſcribing laws to them.”

This new French Board of Trade next juſtly inveigh againſt the practice of their grand monarch, “ of granting monopolies or farms to particular perſons, to be the ſole venders of cer“ tain commodities ; as being moſt ruinous to trade. As,

I. “ Lead from England ; which ſupplied their own wants, and with which France alſo “ ſupplied Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, the Levant, and the French Weſt Indies ; “ granted ſolely, as to ſhot, to one perſon.

II. “ The ſole making, furniſhing, and diſtributing of ſaltpetre and gunpowder.

III. “ Other monopolies for proviſions, &c. Theſe,” ſay this board, “ make themſelves “ maſters of all the good branches of trade, by means of their privileges, to the great prejudice “ of the public. And we are of opinion, that it is for the good of the ſtate to ſuppreſs them “ all.—And to lay open thoſe branches of trade, whereby our navigation will increaſe, and the “ King will receive much more duties than thoſe he gets by the monopolies.”

Thus this otherwiſe ſagacious monarch, for the ſake of an immediate ſum advanced by the monopoliſts and farmers, occaſioned incredible hurt to many thouſands of families, and the “ real loſs of much commerce to his kingdom : which practice he nevertheleſs continued to the end of his life. The remainder of this board's memorial relates to the regulating of their coin, and the reducing the proportion of ſilver to gold to the ſame ſtandard as in England and Holland : “ whereas in France,” ſay they, “ it approaches too near to that of Spain ; which “ country, being the ſource of ſilver, does not trouble itſelf to uſe any arts to draw our coin “ thither ; beſide that they,” *i. e.* Spain, “ are always our debtors on account of the trade to “ the Weſt Indies.

The proportions are,

“ I. In England and Holland, $14\frac{13}{16}$, or near fifteen marks of ſilver buys a mark of gold.

“ II. In Spain, $16\frac{1}{4}$ ditto.

“ III. In France, $15\frac{45}{189}$; or very near $15\frac{1}{4}$.

Againſt raiſing the nominal value of their ſilver coin higher than is contained in its intrinſic quantity of pure bullion, this board's reaſonings correſponded exactly with thoſe of our great John Locke, Eſq; about ſeven years before. Upon the whole, the ſaid repreſentations to the Royal Council are ſo full of hiſtorical matter, not only for the commerce of France, but of

A. D. 1701 England, Holland, Spain, Portugal, &c. that we could not excuſe ourſelves from giving a complete, though compendious account of ſo uſeful and entertaining a ſubject.

We ſhall here only further remark, that had the French afterwards ſtrictly purſued all that is therein ſo judiciouſly laid down, they might have been much more conſiderable in commerce than even they now are: but to this very day they have continued many monopolies and excluſive grants; which the other commercial countries of Europe have no reaſon to find fault with; and they (*i. e.* their court) have alſo frequently, and ſometimes ſhamefully, varied and enhanced the nominal value of their coin beyond its intrinſic value, to ſerve temporary expedients, though to the general prejudice of their people.

On the twelfth of June 1701, was paſſed the ever-memorable act of the Engliſh Parliament, of the twelfth year of King William, cap. ii. For the further Limitation of the Crown, and better ſecuring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject. Whereby the Proteſtant ſucceſſion of the illuſtrious Houſe of Hanover, now on the throne, was moſt happily eſtabliſhed.

On the ſixteenth of September, (N. S.) in this ſame year 1701, the late unhappy King James the Second died at St. Germain in France: and, thereupon, the French King having declared his pretended ſon to be King of the Britiſh Realms, my Lord Mancheſter, the Engliſh ambaſſador, was inſtantly recalled from France, and the French one to King William was ordered forthwith to depart the realm. Both ſides therefore prepared for war, though not formally declared till after King William's death.

The great Elector of Brandenburg and Duke of Pruſſia, (Frederick William) for his ſervices and attachment to the common intereſts of the German empire, and of the grand alliance juſt formed againſt France, the common enemy of the liberties of Europe, was, by the intereſt of his kinſman, King William of England, recognized by moſt of the princes and ſtates of Europe as King of Pruſſia, in this year 1701, his large dominions and revenues very well ſuiting that high dignity he now aſſumed.

From a formerly well-known periodical monthly Political State of Great Britain, for the month of November 1721, we have the value of all the merchandize imported from, or exported to the following countries of the north, from Michaelmas 1697, after the peace of Ryſwich, to Chriſtmas 1701; being yearly, upon an average, as follows, viz.

Imported.	*Imported.*	*Exported.*	*Annual Loſs.*
	£.	£.	£.
From Denmark and Norway	76,215	39,543	36,672
Eaſt Country,	181,296	149,893	31,403
Ruſſia,	112,252	58,884	53,368
Sweden,	212,094	57,555	154,539
Total annual loſs to England, on an average, from all the before-named countries			275,982

The reader, by comparing this account with another from the ſame author, under the year 1716, will ſee, in ſome meaſure, the authenticity of this account confirmed. And the remarks therein made, are recommended to the conſideration of thoſe who alone have it in their power to rectify what is in this northern trade ſo much to our annual loſs.

On the ſeventh of September 1701, the grand alliance of the Emperor Leopold, William King of Great Britain, and the States General of the United Netherlands, was concluded

againſt

1701 againſt France, for recovering the Spaniſh monarchy to the houſe of Auſtria, and for the ſecurity of England and Holland, in point of their commerce and navigation, and of the Hanover ſucceſſion to the crown of Great Britain, as well as for a ſafe barrier to the United Netherlands: and thus all things were prepared for war, prior to the death of King William.

1702 King William departed this life on the eighth of March, (N. S.) 1702, to the great concern of the wiſeſt and beſt of his people. All that properly belongs to our province on this ſad occaſion, is only to make the following melancholy remark, viz. that it was undoubtedly a fatal miſtake in that great and good King's miniſters, to ſuffer a large arrear of national debt to run on to his death, when it ſomewhat exceeded fourteen millions; which laid the foundation of our preſent immenſe debt, as it afforded ſo bad a precedent for the ſucceeding reigns. It has been the opinion of many wiſe and judicious perſons, that the war King William was neceſſarily forced into againſt France, might have been ſo frugally managed, as to have prevented ſuch baneful anticipations for long terms. Dr. D'Avenant, in his Eſſay on Loans, publiſhed in the year 1710, has the following pertinent remark to our purpoſe:

" When, upon the revolution, the Parliament fell moſt willingly into the war, as a thing " the enemy, by eſpouſing King James's intereſt, made abſolutely neceſſary; the firſt branch " of our expence was carried on in the common mode of levying taxes; and the money re- " quired for every year's expence was raiſed and paid within the year. The nation was rich, " trade prodigiouſly great, paper credit ran high, and the goldſmiths in Lombard-ſtreet, &c. " commanded immenſe ſums. Anticipations were indeed in practice; they had been ſo of " old: and borrowing clauſes were added to the bills of aid; but theſe laſted but a few months, " the money came in of courſe, and they were paid off in their turn.—Land-taxes, polls, ad- " ditional duties of cuſtoms, exciſes, and the like, were the ways and means by which theſe " things were to be done. The year generally ſupported its own demands. All the loans " were ſuppoſed to be temporary, and to end with the collection."

Happy had it been for poſterity, had its miniſters gone on to King William's death, in the manner thus deſcribed in the former part of his reign; or had Queen Anne's miniſters reſolutely determined that King William's debt ſhould on no pretence be increaſed, the nation could with great eaſe have borne ſo moderate a burthen. But the miniſters of every ſucceeding reign going on to accumulate the public burthens, is truly a very ſad proſpect, and moſt grievouſly affects the commerce, manufactures, and navigation of the nation, and alſo the landed intereſt. Which melancholy conſideration will, we hope, ſufficiently juſtify our preſent brief animadverſion thereon.

On the 4th of May 1702, Queen Anne declared war againſt the French King, not only on account of his ſeizing the Spaniſh monarchy, as before-mentioned, but " for the great affront " and indignity" ſays the Queen, " offered to us and our kingdoms, in taking upon him to " declare the pretended Prince of Wales, King of our Realms."

The States General's declaration of war ſets forth, in ſubſtance, " That Louis had long " ſince caſt his eyes on their provinces,—and had twice attacked their republic," *i. e.* in the years 1672 and 1688, " by moſt unjuſt war, in order to make his way to univerſal monarchy. " —That ſo far was he from deſigning to obſerve the treaty of Ryſwich, that he thereby " ſolely aimed at lulling the allies aſleep, by their laying down their arms, and particularly by " ruining the commerce of the Dutch, to enervate them: ſince that treaty was ſcarcely rati-

A. D. 1702 "ſied, before he began manifeſtly to encroach on their trade, which is the great ſinew of their "ſtate, by openly refuſing the tarif promiſed by that treaty."

In this year, an attempt was made by the Engliſh from Carolina againſt St. Auguſtine, the capital of Spaniſh Florida: but, although they took and held the town for a whole month, they were not able to take the caſtle for want of mortars, which they ought to have duly conſidered before hand; they were therefore forced to withdraw on the arrival of two Spaniſh men of war, and to abandon their ſhips, ammunition, &c. to the enemy.

In the ſame year, the land proprietors of the two provinces of Eaſt and Weſt New Jerſey, in Engliſh America, who had purchaſed of the firſt proprietors, not readily finding purchaſers of under-ſhares thereof, and being likewiſe at variance amongſt themſelves, they agreed to ſurrender into Queen Anne's hands both the charters for thoſe two ſeparate governments: reſerving their particular rights and properties of the lands and ſettlements therein: whereupon the Queen conſolidated thoſe two provinces into one, and appointed Lord Cornbury to be the firſt regal governor. This colony of New Jerſey has ſince proſpered very well, and has been extremely uſeful in ſupplying our ſugar colonies with proviſions, lumber, &c. Its two beſt towns are Burlington and Elizabeth-town; but that of Perth-Amboy is reckoned to have the beſt harbour, and to be the moſt commodious in point of ſituation.

We have ſeen, under the preceding year, the indiſpenſable neceſſity there was for uniting the Old and the New Engliſh Eaſt India Companies, even if it had been for no other reaſon but for the ſake of public tranquillity. This coalition was made on the twenty-ſecond of July 1702, by an indenture tripartite between the Queen and theſe two Companies, in ſubſtance as follows, viz.

	Stock.
1. The old company being poſſeſſed, in the late ſubſcription, of - -	315,000
2. And the new company, of - - - -	1,662,000
3, And the ſeparate traders, now diſcovered to amount to the ſum of -	23,000
Making, in all, the ſubſcription for - - -	£. 2,000,000

"I. It was now agreed by both companies, that the old company ſhall purchaſe of the new one, at par, ſix hundred and ſeventy-three thouſand five hundred pounds of their ſtock, whereby their whole ſtock will be -	988,500
"Leaving the like ſum for the new company, viz. - -	988,500
"And the ſeparate traders, as above, have - - -	23,000
	£. 2,000,000

"II. That the whole trade to India be carried on for the ſaid two united ſtocks, for ſeven "years, for the benefit of all the members of the new or Engliſh Company; the ſaid old "company to have a right and power equal to all the reſt of the members, in the management "of the trade during the ſaid ſeven years, but to keep their ſtock in their politic or corporate "capacity for the ſaid term, without transferring it to their particular members.

"III. The old company's dead ſtock," (already defined to be forts, factories, buildings, &c. *i. e.* any thing but money, ſhips, and merchandize) "being valued at three hundred "and thirty thouſand pounds: and that of the new company but at ſeventy thouſand pounds: "the

1702 "the new one ſhall therefore pay one hundred and thirty thouſand pounds to the old one, for "making up two hundred thouſand pounds for their moiety of the whole dead ſtock being "now four hundred thouſand pounds, intended to be a new additional ſtock on the joint-"bottom.

"IV. But the old company, during the ſaid ſeven years, ſhall have the uſe of their dead "ſtock at home," *i. e.* their offices and warehouſes in Leadenhall-ſtreet, &c. "and then to "go to the united one," (the old company ceaſing to be a company at the end of the ſaid ſeven years) "comprehending the proprietors of both companies.

"V. During the ſaid ſeven years, from the date hereof, each company ſhall hold their diſ-"tinct courts;" (the new company's office being kept at Skinner's Hall on Dowgate Hill)—"Shall have diſtinct courts of directors.—May raiſe money two ways, viz. either for their re-"ſpective moieties of the united trade, or to tranſact their own ſeparate affairs, ſuch as paying "their own ſeparate debts, &c.—but debts contracted for the joint trade ſhall be diſcharged "out of the united company's ſtock.

"VI. and VII. That both companies ſhall forthwith bring home their ſeparate eſtate, di-"viding the ſame amongſt their reſpective members: after which, neither company ſhall ſend "out any ſhips, goods, &c. on their ſeparate account, but all ſhall be on the joint account, "by ſuch orders as ſhall be made by the general courts of both companies, in the name of the "Engliſh Company trading to the Eaſt Indies, by direction of twelve directors out of each "company, ſubordinate to both the general courts.

"VIII. and IX. Both companies ſhall bear an equal proportion of the united trade, and "the members of each may transfer their nominal ſtocks, in the books of their reſpective "company; but ſo as the old company ſhall keep their moiety of ſtock entire in their corpo-"rate capacity for the ſaid ſeven years.

"X. Both companies covenant with her Majeſty, that the joint account ſhall export annu-"ally to India, of the growth, product, or manufacture of England, at leaſt one-tenth part "of the whole ſum they ſhall trade for: an account whereof ſhall be annually delivered to the "Privy Council. Hereby releaſing both companies from all former covenants, ſaltpetre ex-"cepted, of which merchandize they ſhall be obliged to deliver to the office of ordnance, four "hundred and ninety-four tons and a quarter, at forty-five pounds per ton in time of peace, "and at fifty-three pounds, in time of war; the retraction thereof ſettled at fifteen pounds per "cent."—for the ſupply of which commodity, ſo neceſſary for fire-artillery, this company has always juſtly valued themſelves.

"XI. This article relates to the rank of the company's chaplains only.

"XII. The Queen agrees to take the company's ſealed bonds for all the cuſtoms on their "merchandize; the fifteen per cent. on muſlins only excepted.

"XIII. XIV. XV. and XVI. Nothing to be tranſacted on the joint trade, without the "concurrence of both companies:—and only ſervants and free merchants, or other corpora-"tions, the Bank of England excepted, may be licenſed to trade for themſelves in the com-"pany's ſhips, &c.

"XVII. The Queen grants that the general courts of both companies and their ſub-mana-"gers ſhall have the ſole government of their forts.—May coin foreign money in India: and "the old company may convey to the new one, Bombay and St. Helena.

"XVIII. XIX. XX. The old company, at or near the expiration of the ſaid ſeven years, "ſhall transfer into the new company their moiety of the joint-ſtock to their reſpective mem-

A. D.
1702 " bers.—And ſhall alſo, ſome time before the ſaid expiration, aſſign to her Majeſty all the " debts due to them, which debts ſhe engages to re-aſſign, in ten days after, unto truſtees, " for anſwering the ſaid old company's debts ; and afterward for the benefit of their members. " And they alſo covenant to reſign their charter, in two months after the expiration of the " ſaid ſeven years, into the Queen's hands. Whereupon, the new company ſhall thenceforward be called, *The united Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies* : " whoſe affairs ſhall thenceforth be conducted by their own ſole directors, agreeable to their " charter of the tenth of King William."—The remaining articles are purely temporary, as indeed ſome of the foregoing ones alſo are. " And,

" Laſtly, The Queen promiſes, that this indenture ſhall be conſtrued in the moſt favourable " ſenſe for the advantage of both companies."

Thus, a prudent ſtop was put to much contention, on account of theſe two Eaſt India Companies.

Upon advice received by General Codrington, Governor of the Leeward Iſlands, that war was declared by England againſt France, he attacked the French part of the iſland of St. " Chriſtopher, and poſſeſſed himſelf of it with very little trouble :—ever ſince which time that fine iſland has been ſolely in the poſſeſſion of Great Britain, having been formally ceded to us by the treaty of Utrecht.

It is poſſible that the origin of the preſent great production of the fine rice of South Carolina, might have happened about this time. What the anonymous author of, The Importance of the Britiſh Plantations in America, (London, 1701) has ſaid on this ſubject is well worth recording, though he has not given us the exact year of its origin. It is alſo, a ſeaſonable leſſon for men never to deſpair of many more new productions in thoſe colonies, and is therefore ſubmitted to The honourable Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.

" A brigantine," ſays that author, " from the iſle of Madagaſcar, happened to put in at " Carolina, having a little ſeed-rice left, which the Captain gave to a gentleman of the name " of Woodward. From part of this he had a very good crop, but was ignorant for ſome " years how to clean it. It was ſoon diſperſed over the province, and by frequent experiments " and obſervations, they found out ways of producing and manufacturing it to ſuch great per- " fection, that it is thought to exceed any other in value. The writer of this hath ſeen the " ſaid Captain in Carolina, where he received a handſome gratuity from the gentlemen of that " country, in acknowledgement of the ſervice he had done that province. It is likewiſe re- " ported, that Mr. Dubois, then Treaſurer of the Eaſt India Company, did ſend to that " country a ſmall bag of ſeed-rice ſome ſhort time after, from whence it is reaſonable enough " to ſuppoſe might come thoſe two ſorts of that commodity, the one called red rice, in con- " tradiſtinction to the white, from the redneſs of the inner huſk or rind of this ſort, although " they both clean and become white alike."

Before this important new production, Carolina was not a little puzzled to ſupply her mother-country with merchandize ſufficient to pay for all the neceſſaries they conſtantly wanted from England : that fine grain, we ſhall ſee, has ſince been exported in immenſe quantities, as have alſo been the pitch, tar, turpentine, &c. of Carolina, in no inconſiderable quantities and value.

1703 The neceſſity which all maritime trading nations find, of being ſupplied with naval ſtores, and more eſpecially England's very great need thereof, as well for the royal navy, as for her

numerous

A. D. 1703 numerous mercantile ſhipping, has often put it in the power of the northern crowns to diſtreſs ſuch nations as had none of their own. This eminently appeared in the year 1703, from the Tar Company of Sweden, who abſolutely refuſed to let the Engliſh nation have any pitch or tar, although ready money was always paid for it, unleſs England would permit it all to be brought in Swediſh ſhipping, and at their own price, and likewiſe only in ſuch quantities as that company ſhould pleaſe to permit. This diſappointment, as the late ingenious Mr. Gee likewiſe obſerved, in his Trade and Navigation of Great Britain conſidered, p. 82, " put the Government and Parliament on the method of allowing of bounties for the raiſing of pitch and tar, " hemp, flax, and ſhip-timber, in our North American colonies; as particularly in Carolina, " the ſouthernmoſt parts of which lying near the latitude of lower Egypt, and the northernmoſt nearly with Ancona and Bologna in Italy; at which parts the beſt hemp and flax " grow." The firſt ſtatute of this kind was the act of the third and fourth of Queen Anne, cap. x. For encouraging the Importation of Naval Stores from her Majeſty's Plantations in America: judiciouſly ſetting forth, " that, under God, the wealth, ſtrength, and ſafety of the " kingdom, ſo much depend on the royal navy and navigation thereof, and that the ſtores neceſſary for the ſame being hitherto brought in chiefly from foreign parts, and by foreign " ſhipping, at exorbitant and arbitrary rates,—which might be provided in a more certain and " beneficial manner from her Majeſty's plantations in America, where the vaſt tracts of land " lying near the ſea, and on navigable rivers, may commodiouſly afford great quantities of " all ſorts of naval ſtores, by due encouragement, which may likewiſe tend to the further employment and increaſe of Engliſh ſhipping and ſeamen, and alſo of the trade and vent of the " woollen and other manufactures and product, in exchange for ſuch naval ſtores, now purchaſed of foreign countries for ready money—It was therefore now enacted, that whoever " ſhall, in ſhips and with ſailors qualified as by the acts of navigation, import from the " Engliſh plantations in America, the under-named naval ſtores, ſhall be entitled to the " following bounties, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
" For good and merchantable tar and pitch, per ton of eight barrels	4	0	0
" ———————— rozin or turpentine, per ton	3	0	0
" For hemp, water-rotted, bright and clean, per ton of twenty cwt.	6	0	0
" For all maſts, yards, and bowſprits, per ton, of forty feet each ton	1	0	0

1. " Proviſo,—That for the particular benefit of the royal navy, the pre-emption or refuſal " of the ſaid naval ſtores ſhall be tendered to the commiſſioners of her Majeſty's navy, upon " landing the ſame: and if within twenty days the navy board ſhall not bargain for the ſame, " then the proprietors may diſpoſe of them to their beſt advantage.

2. " That none within the colonies of New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſet's Bay, Rhode Iſland, " and Providence Plantation, the Narraganſet Country, or King's Province, and Connecticut " in New England; and in New York, and New Jerſey; ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any pitch pine trees, or tar trees, not being within any incloſure, under the growth of " twelve inches diameter, at three feet from the earth, on forfeiture of five pounds for each " offence.—Nor,

3. " Shall any one wilfully ſet fire to any woods or foreſt, in which are any trees prepared " for the making of pitch or tar, without firſt giving notice to the owners thereof, or to a magiſtrate: under the penalty of ten pounds."

" This ſtatute to be in force for nine years, from the firſt of January 1705, (old ſtile)."

The

A. D. 1703 The good conſequence of which ſeaſonable law was ſoon after felt; as theſe provinces, and alſo thoſe of Carolina, do, even at this time, import into England great quantities of merchantable pitch and tar, fit for moſt uſes in the navy. Of late, alſo, good hemp and flax are raiſed in the ſaid provinces, where there are ſuch immenſe quantities of proper and excellent lands for the raiſing of thoſe commodities; of which two laſt-mentioned articles, Mr. Gee was of opinion, that Ruſſia, in the year 1729, exported annually to Great Britain, and other nations, to the value of one million ſterling.

Upon this occaſion, there were computations laid before the government of the following quantities of foreign pitch and tar, annually conſumed in Europe, viz.

1. Britain and Ireland, annually about — — —	1000	Laſts.
2. By Holland, as well for their home-uſe, as for what they export to Spain, Portugal, and up the Mediterranean, — — —	4000	
3. By France, — — — — —	500	
4. By Hamburg, Lubeck, and other German ports, — —	500	
In all,	6000	Laſts.

Of which four-fifth parts conſiſted of tar, and one fifth of pitch.

Note, That beſides Sweden, from whence they chiefly come, there are conſiderable quantities thereof made in Norway, and alſo in Ruſſia, brought from Archangel.

By the thirtieth clauſe of an act of the eighth year of Queen Anne, cap. xiii. the Queen is empowered to apply ten thouſand pounds out of the ſupplies granted in that ſeſſion of Parliament, "For the ſubſiſtence and employment of a number of ſkilful people, and for furniſhing "of fit utenſils and materials for effectually carrying on the ſaid good and profitable deſigns of "raiſing ſuch naval ſtores from the growths and products of the ſaid plantations."

By an act of the ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xvii. "One hundred pounds penalty was in-"flicted on any cutting down white, or other pine-trees, not private property, in thoſe plan-"tations, of twenty-four inches diameter, or upwards, twelve inches from the earth. And "the Queen's ſurveyor-general of her woods in America, ſhall mark all ſuch trees as ſhall be "fit for the royal navy with a broad-arrow, for the uſe of the public."

By an act of the twelfth of Queen Anne,, cap. ix. "the before-mentioned law was renewed, "and the ſame bounties are allowed for naval ſtores brought from Scotland:" though to little or no purpoſe hitherto; although it be true, as the laſt-named ſtatute remarks, "That there "is in ſeveral parts of Scotland great ſtore of pine and fir-trees, fit for maſts, and for the ma-"king of pitch, tar, roſin, and other naval ſtores." But the act itſelf aſſigns the true reaſon why they cannot be eaſily or cheaply brought to England, viz. "Becauſe the lands and woods "which may yield ſuch naval ſtores, are moſtly in parts mountainous and remote from navi-"gable rivers." This the York-Buildings Company experienced, to their coſt, ſome years after this time: the timber they felled in ſome of thoſe woods, at a great expence, being left to rot on the ground, the carriage of it to the neareſt places of navigation being found impracticable; which will probably ever be the caſe with reſpect to Scotland, notwithſtanding the bounties allowed by that act, or any larger bounties to be reaſonably granted.

The Czar of Ruſſia, Peter the Great, having conquered from Sweden the fine provinces of Livonia, Ingria, and Carelia, formed a grand project in this year 1703, for opening a free and new communication between Ruſſia and the Baltic Sea.—His great genius had diſcovered, that certain iſlands at the mouth of the river Neva, at the bottom of the Finland Gulph, might

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1703 might be ſo fortified, as to prove to Ruſſia of equal benefit for war or for commerce: hence ſprung up the fort of Cronſlot, now a commodious haven for his ſhips of war, by which all ſhips muſt paſs.

That Prince alſo viewed the adjacent country with ſatisfaction; and, in ſhort, determined to erect a new metropolis and emporium at the mouth of the river Neva, from whence he might more commodiouſly awe his enemies of the north, and alſo open a naval communication, from the Baltic, with the reſt of Europe, by a much ſhorter and ſafer courſe than from Archangel. He conſidered alſo, that by erecting a royal city and port there, though in the ſixtieth degree of north latitude, he ſhould acquire a greater influence, by means of his navy, in the Baltic, and even in the Northern and German oceans. He therefore brought thither a vaſt number of labourers and artificers from all parts of his vaſt empire, with implements, materials, tools, &c. many thouſands of whom are ſaid to have periſhed through cold, hunger, and diſtempers, in that damp place, which gave him little concern: yet, in the end, he ſurmounted all obſtacles.—And having, through his deſpotic ſway, obliged his nobility, merchants, artizans, &c. to erect and inhabit houſes in this new city; and, by encouragements, to get many ſea-faring people, &c. from Livonia, and other parts, to ſettle in it, he gave it the name of St. Peterſburgh, which very ſoon became a large and populous city.

It was objected by the people of Wologda, a city in fifty-nine degrees of north latitude, that ſhould their handicrafts be removed from that city, where three German merchants alone employed upwards of twenty-five thouſand perſons, in dreſſing of hemp and flax, for the Archangel market, their proviſions at Peterſburgh would come much dearer, and ſo they ſhould loſe their trade:—Yet the Czar over-ruled even this point.

Mr. De Dieu, the Dutch reſident with the Czar, in the year 1720, acquaints his principals, that Peterſburgh might then contain about three hundred thouſand ſouls; a thing ſcarcely credible to be effected in theſe modern times, and much more reſembling the power of the ancient oriental monarchs than any modern potentate. Here he eſtabliſhed his admiralty; his mathematical ſchools, his royal academies, founderies, &c. and his docks are at Cronſlot, fifteen or twenty miles lower down; alſo his powder-mills, paper-mills, &c. where alſo there is a good town built, and where he eſtabliſhed rope-walks, anchor-ſmiths, &c. At this new city of St. Peterſburgh were likewiſe eſtabliſhed manufactories of woollen, linen, &c. and every uſeful art for the improvement of the trade and navigation, as well as the general knowledge of his people; obliging them alſo to ſend their children thither for that end.—And, in conſequence of theſe vaſt ſchemes, and of his poſſeſſing the fine port of Revel in Livonia, we have, ſince the building of Peterſburgh, ſeen that moſt unuſual, and abſolutely new ſight, of a Ruſſian fleet triumphant in the Baltic Sea, obliging the fleets of their opponents there, to ſhelter themſelves under the cannon of their fortreſſes.

By the erection of this new city, the port of Archangel, in the White Sea, to which formerly there uſually reſorted yearly above one hundred ſhips, chiefly Engliſh, Dutch, French, Hamburgers, &c. is ſince conſiderably declined in its commerce; its former cuſtoms having by ſome been reckoned to amount to one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling annually. Riga alſo, and Narva, will probably be more and more impaired in their commerce, if Peterſburgh continues to flouriſh, as this laſt-named city is ſo commodiouſly ſituated for the tranſportation of Ruſſian merchandize, by the river Neva, and the great lakes Ladoga and Onega, as well as by land-carriage, into and from the interior parts of the Ruſſian empire, from whence, and from Livonia, &c. that city is well ſupplied with whatever it has need of.

Thus,

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Thus, this modern empire may boaſt of more than either the Grecian or Roman empire could, viz. of its dominions ſtretching, ſouth-weſtward, from the Hyperborean ocean to the Baltic ſea; from the Baltic to the Euxine and Caſpian ſeas, ſouthward; and, eaſtward, even to the confines of the vaſt empire of China; a very great part of which territories have been acquired within little more than two hundred years paſt; and ſome of the beſt parts of it by the ſame great Czar Peter; as, particularly, the noble and moſt fertile province of Livonia, ſo commodiouſly ſituated for commerce, as well in reſpect of its bays, ports, lakes, and rivers, as for a communication with the Ruſſian inland provinces, and with Lithuania, for its excellent ſtaple commodities of the beſt hemp in Europe, of pot-aſhes, timber of many ſorts, iron, ſteel, flax, corn, cavear, wax, honey, &c. Peterſburgh, however, is attended with ſome great inconveniences, from its watery ſituation, and the overflowing of the river Neva.

Beſide theſe achievements and improvements of the Czar Peter, he cauſed a canal to be dug between the river Veroneſe, or Woronitz, and another ſmall one falling into the great river Volga, whereby a communication was to be opened between the latter and the river Don, the one falling into the Caſpian, and the other into the Black Sea: it was performed by Captain John Perry, an Engliſhman, who likewiſe, by that great Prince's order, had partly finiſhed a much more conſiderable work, being a grand canal cut between the Volga and the Don, nearer the mouth of thoſe two huge rivers; but the taking of Azoph from him by the Turks, as elſewhere related, put a ſtop to that vaſt deſign.

The almoſt unparalleled tempeſt which happened in November 1703, more eſpecially round the ſouthern coaſts of Great Britain, was undoubtedly a great calamity, not only by reaſon of the deſtruction of many fine Engliſh ſhips of war, but of a great number of merchant ſhips, and their valuable cargoes, as well as of the lives of a conſiderable number of commanders, officers, and ſailors; and was, without doubt, ſome obſtruction to the increaſe of the nation's wealth. Neverthleſs, it appears by Dr. D'Avenant's report to the commiſſioners of accounts, in the year 1712, part i. p. 43, who was then inſpector-general of the cuſtoms, that England's exports in this ſame year, to all parts of the world, amounted to ſix millions ſix hundred and forty-four thouſand two hundred and three pounds; of which ſum there was exported to Holland alone, two millions four hundred and ſeventeen thouſand eight hundred and ninety pounds, being above one-third of our whole exports. We have, in our Introduction, accounted for the vaſtneſs of our exports to Holland; and, upon the whole, the number of great ſhips we and the Dutch took this ſame year at Vigo, and the treaſure we brought home from thence, beſide what was deſtroyed, might nearly counterbalance the loſs England ſuſtained by the ſaid ſtorm.

In this ſame famous year, John Methuen, Eſq. concluded, on the part of the Queen of Great Britain, a famous, though conciſe treaty of commerce with Peter, King of Portugal, much to the benefit of both nations, viz.

Article I. "The King of Portugal, on his part, ſtipulates, both in his own name, and "thoſe of his ſucceſſors, to admit for ever hereafter into Portugal, the woollen cloths, and "the reſt of the woollen manufactures of the Britains," (theſe are the very words of this treaty, as printed in the fourth volume of Treaties of Peace and Commerce, in the year 1732) "as "was accuſtomed till they were prohibited by the laws; nevertheleſs, upon this condition:

"II. That her Royal Majeſty of Great Britain ſhall, in her own name and that of her "ſucceſſors, be obliged for ever hereafter to admit the wines of the growth of Portugal into "Britain: ſo that at no time, whether there ſhall be peace or war between the kingdoms of

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1703 " Great Britain and France, any thing more ſhall be demanded for theſe wines, by the name " of cuſtom or duty, or by whatſoever other title, directly or indirectly, whether they ſhall " be imported into Great Britain in pipes, or hogſheads, or other caſks, than what ſhall be " demanded for the like quantity or meaſure of French wines, deducting or abating one-third " part of the cuſtom or duty. But if at any time this deduction or abatement of cuſtoms, " which is to be made as aforeſaid, ſhall in any manner be attempted and prejudiced, it ſhall " be juſt and lawful for his ſacred Majeſty of Portugal again to prohibit the woollen cloths " and the reſt of the Britiſh woollen manufactures." Dated at Liſbon, December 27, 1703.

This moſt juſt and beneficial convention has remained inviolable to this day; which has preſerved an uninterrupted friendſhip and alliance between both nations. And may it ever continue.

By this treaty (ſays Mr. King, the editor of the Britiſh Merchant, in his dedication to Sir Paul Methuen, the ſon of the miniſter who negociated it) " we gain a greater balance from " Portugal than from any other country whatever. By it alſo we have increaſed our exports " thither, from about three hundred thouſand pounds yearly, to near one million five hundred thouſand pounds."

After England's declaration of war, in the year 1702, againſt Spain, then poſſeſſed by the grandſon of France, as well as againſt France, it was by no means Great Britain's intereſt to uſe the wines of thoſe two countries, which could have been imported by neutral ſhips: and as Portugal's red wines were therefore become in ſome ſort the only kind we could then conveniently and reaſonably obtain, this treaty was and is ſtill beneficial to both countries, though perhaps ſomewhat exaggerated by the above-named author, eſpecially as Portugal has, in return for our taking ſuch vaſt quantities of their wines, conſtantly taken off a greater quantity of our manufactures, ſo as to occaſion a conſiderable yearly balance in our favour. And our palates being long ſince ſo well reconciled to Portugal wine, the Portugueſe, for our ſupply, have turned great quantities of their lands into vineyards.

Bullion exported from England to the Eaſt Indies in ſix years, viz. from	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1698 to 1703, both years included — — in ſilver	3,171,404	17	8
gold	128,229	0	0
Total of both	3,299,633	17	8
Which total, on an average, makes, per annum, — —	549,938	19	7⅓

1704 By a law, made about the beginning of this year, for the public regiſtering of all deeds, conveyances, and wills, in any honours, manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, within the Weſt Riding in the county of York, of this ſecond and third of Queen Anne, cap. iv. " a memorial of all deeds and conveyances, and of all wills and devices in writing, whereby " any honours, manors, &c. in the ſaid Weſt-Riding, may be any way affected in law or " equity, may, at the election of the party or parties concerned, be regiſtered, as is hereinafter-directed. And that, after ſuch regiſter, every ſubſequent deed or conveyance of the " ſaid honours, manors, &c. ſo regiſtered, or any part thereof, ſhall be adjudged fraudulent " and void, unleſs a memorial thereof ſhall alſo be regiſtered: and the like of wills, &c.— " The regiſter's office to be kept at Wakefield. This act not to extend to copyhold eſtates, " nor to leaſes at rack-rent, nor to any leaſe not exceeding twenty-one years."

A. D. 1704 The very good grounds or reaſons aſſigned for this law, in its preamble, were, "that this "Weſt-Riding is the principal place in the north for the cloth manufacture: and that moſt "of the traders therein are freeholders, and have frequent occaſions to borrow money upon "their eſtates, for managing their ſaid trade; but, for want of a regiſter, find it difficult to "give ſecurity to the ſatisfaction of the money lenders, although the ſecurity they offer be "really good; by means whereof, the ſaid trade is very much obſtructed, and many families "ruined."

What pity it is, that ſuch a regiſter could not be rendered practicable all over England; ſince by ſuch a prudent regulation, many frauds might effectually be prevented; and this too, without expoſing gentlemens circumſtances further than the nature of ſuch regiſters abſolutely require.

N. B. By an act of the fifth of Queen Anne, in the year 1707, cap. xviii. for enrollment of bargains and ſales in the ſaid Weſt Riding, ſeveral additional proviſions were made for enrolling all bargains, ſales, &c. which are not neceſſary to be particularized in this place.

The former part of the year 1704 ſeemed at firſt to portend much hazard to the liberties and commerce of the greateſt part of Chriſtendom: France was in actual poſſeſſion of the whole Spaniſh monarchy; the German empire powerfully invaded on the ſide of Bavaria by the French; where, as well as in Italy, their ſuperiority gave them great advantages, as did alſo an inſurrection in Hungary. All theſe appearances were very melancholy conſiderations in England, and very naturally occaſioned a great fall in the nominal values or prices of their parliamentary funds and public ſtocks. The Bank of England therefore found themſelves obliged again to iſſue, for a large ſum, their ſealed bills, bearing intereſt, in order to keep up their credit; and the Eaſt India Company was obliged to create a conſiderable ſum in their bonds, for enabling them to fit out their ſhips. Yet, ſuch is the fluctuating ſtate of things in time of war, two very great pieces of good fortune happened to the grand allies before this year ended, viz.

I. The famous and moſt compleat victory of the confederate army, on the thirteenth of Auguſt, at Blenheim or Hockſtadt, over the French and Bavarian army; on which it may be truly ſaid, the fate and liberty of Europe, as well as in a more particular manner that of Germany, in a great meaſure depended: and,

II. The taking of the moſt important fortreſs and port of Gibraltar. Both which gave a moſt wonderful turn to public affairs all over Europe; and particularly to the hopes and public credit of England.

Gibraltar having been confirmed to Great Britain by the peace of Utrecht, has proved of very ſignal advantage to us;—as it is not only a bridle on moſt of the Chriſtian States we may be at war with;—a ſure ſtation for our ſhips of war;—a ſafe retreat in war for our merchant ſhips;—a refreſhing place for both;—and a curb on the piratical ſtates of the oppoſite Barbary ſhores:—In every view, therefore, highly meriting all the expence we can beſtow for preſerving it in our poſſeſſion. It was alſo thought ſo dangerous a thorn in the ſide of Spain, that the French and Spaniards formally beſieged it in October this ſame year; but it was twice ſeaſonably relieved: and the ſame happened again in the year 1727; ſince which its fortifications have been much improved.

The Engliſh ſtatute of the fifteenth of King Charles the Second, for the encouragement of trade, ſtiled by way of eminence the Act of Navigation, having enacted, that no merchandize of any part of Europe ſhall be imported into any part of Aſia, Africa, or America, belonging

1704 to his Majeſty, but what ſhall be laden from England, except as is therein excepted; an act of this year, (third and fourth of Queen Anne, cap. viii.) ſo far repeals the ſame, as to permit the exportation of Iriſh linen cloth to the Engliſh plantations. Its preamble ſets forth, that, “ for as much as the Proteſtant intereſt in Ireland ought to be ſupported, by giving the “ utmoſt encouragement to the linen manufactures of that kingdom. Iriſh linen therefore “ might thenceforward be exported from any port of Ireland directly to any of the Engliſh “ plantations, in Engliſh-built ſhipping, navigated according to law.”

The linen manufacture of Ireland was then, and in a great meaſure ſtill is, principally carried on in the province of Ulſter and parts adjacent, where the Proteſtants are by far the majority of the people; but in moſt other parts of that kingdom it is well known to be otherwiſe.

By a ſtatute of this ſame third and fourth of Queen Anne, cap. ix. “ promiſſory notes were,” for the encouragement of trade and commerce, “ enacted to be aſſignable by indorſement; “ and actions might be maintained thereon, in like ſort as was enacted on inland bills of ex- “ change, in the year 1698, ninth of King William. And whereas in the ſaid act of the “ ninth of King William, there is no proviſion made for proteſting of inland bills of ex- “ change, in caſe the party on whom any ſuch inland bill ſhall be drawn ſhall refuſe to accept “ the ſame;—it was now hereby enacted, that if hereafter, upon preſenting of any ſuch bill, “ the party on whom it ſhall be drawn ſhall refuſe to accept the ſame by under-writing it “ under his hand, he or ſhe to whom the ſaid bill is made payable, or his ſervant, agent, or “ aſſigns, may and ſhall cauſe the ſaid bill to be proteſted for non-acceptance,” as was by the ſaid law of 1698, to be done, when due, for non-payment, “ and as is the caſe of foreign “ bills of exchange. Yet no ſuch proteſt ſhall be neceſſary for non-payment of ſuch inland “ bill of exchange, unleſs drawn for twenty pounds, or upwards; and alſo that the proteſt “ for non-acceptance ſhall be made by ſuch perſons as are appointed by the ſaid act of 1698,” *i. e.* a notary-public, or &c. as already therein recited, “ to proteſt inland bills for non- “ payment. Alſo, that if any perſon doth accept,” *i. e.* receive and take, “ any ſuch bill of “ exchange, for and in ſatisfaction of any former debt, the ſame ſhall be accounted and “ eſteemed a full and complete payment of ſuch debt, although the ſaid receiver of it doth “ not take his due courſe to obtain payment thereof, by endeavouring to get the ſame accepted “ and paid, or elſe by proteſting, as aforeſaid, either for non-acceptance or non-payment “ thereof. Laſtly, nothing in this act ſhall diſcharge any remedy which any perſon may “ have againſt the drawer, accepter, or indorſer of ſuch bill.”

It is ſomewhat ſtrange, that two ſuch ſalutary and important regulations as this law has made in promiſſory notes and inland bills of exchange, were not ſooner enacted in a country of ſuch conſiderable mercantile tranſactions as England has long carried on. But to ſay the truth, what many have remarked of our national ſlowneſs in reforming abuſes and defects, ſeems but too well grounded.

This law was made perpetual by the ſeventh of Queen Anne, cap. xxv.

In this year 1704 Queen Anne granted a charter of incorporation to a great number of noblemen and gentlemen of diſtinction, and eminent citizens of London.

The preamble of this charter declares it to be at the humble requeſt of Thomas Duke of Leeds, Pawlet Earl of Bolingbroke, Francis Lord Guildford, Sir Thomas and Sir Humphry Mackworths, “ for the working and managing of mines and minerals, and ſmelting, refining “ and manufacturing the ſame; and they to be for ever one body-politic, by the name of “ The Governor and Company of the Mine Adventurers of England. The Duke of Leeds

“ to

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1704 "to be governor for life: and to elect a deputy governor and twelve directors by their general "courts; who are alſo impowered to make bye-laws, &c." as cuſtomary in other royal charters. Hereupon, in the ſame year, Sir Humphry Mackworth and William Waller, who had before purchaſed ſeveral leaſes, for terms of years, of certain mines in different parts of Wales, did now convey them to this new corporation, on certain conditions mentioned in that conveyance. This company (principally, if not ſolely, under Sir Humphry Mackworth's direction, who was elected deputy governor for life, went on in a pompous manner, adding ſo many new ſhares as made the whole number of ſhares to amount to ſix thouſand and twelve: and purchaſing freſh mines, as well as raiſing vaſt quantities of lead and copper, and of litharge, from which they made a great deal of red lead; and from the lead they extracted conſiderable quantities of ſilver: and they iſſued caſh notes which they cauſed for ſome time to be circulated throughout a great part of Wales. They alſo erected themſelves into a money bank, and circulated their ſealed bills and caſh notes for ſome time in London, till reſtrained by a clauſe in an act of Parliament, in the year 1708, in favour of the Bank of England, elſewhere mentioned.

Sir Humphry Mackworth went on impoſing on the proprietors for five years from the date of the charter; by falſe and ſham calculations of their profits; by purchaſing lead and litharge from other people's mines, and declaring them to be digged from the company's mines; buying alſo the ſilver extracted from other men's lead, and getting it to be coined in the King's mint as coming from the company's mines; whilſt, at the ſame time, he is not able to go on without freſh artifices and calls on the proprietors, nor to pay the vaſt expence of workmen, &c. whoſe wages were ſuffered to run in arrear; and his ſchemes being too extenſive for this company's abilities, he was obliged to ſtop payment of their ſealed bills and caſh notes; being by ſuch wild management run greatly in debt, whilſt at the ſame time he is erecting of charity ſchools in Wales with the company's money, for the drawing in of well meaning people. All which brought on a parliamentary enquiry, as will be ſeen under the year 1710.

1705 The French burn and deſtroy many of the plantations in the iſle of St. Chriſtopher, at this time ſolely poſſeſſed by England, as alſo in the neighbouring iſle of Nevis: yet they were not able to poſſeſs themſelves of the forts of either of thoſe iſlands. And the damage done to the planters was afterwards made good by debentures granted by Parliament.

The Engliſh arms proving proſperous both by ſea and land againſt France, the ſupplies were raiſed with the greateſt eaſe for the current ſervices of this and ſeveral ſucceeding years: particularly the annuities of ninety-nine years, at ſix and a half per cent. the capital or principal (of two millions and an half, for the enſuing year's ſupply) to be ſunk at the expiration of that term. This way of raiſing of money, we are ſenſible, has ſince been cenſured by many, although during the laſt and preſent expenſive wars again practiſed: yet contemporary writers were not of that opinion; and they alſo unanimouſly obſerve very truly, that the national or public credit of England was never before at ſo high a pitch; nor more ſacredly maintained. Nothing indeed ſeemed amiſs either with regard to our foreign commerce or colonies; both which were in a proſperous and increaſing ſtate, as well as our home manufactures.

1706 By an act of Parliament of the fourth year of Queen Anne, cap. xvii. it was enacted,—that, from Midſummer 1706, bankrupts who ſhall not, within thirty days after public notice, ſurrender themſelves, and diſcover their effects, ſhall ſuffer as felons; unleſs the Lord Chancellor ſhall enlarge the time.—Five per cent. allowed to the bankrupt, unleſs his eſtate ſhall not produce eight ſhillings per pound to his creditors.—Bankrupts who ſhall have within one year

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1706 preceding their bankruptcy, loſt five pounds at once, at any kind of game, or one hundred pounds in all, ſhall receive no benefit by this act.—Not diſcovering all their eſtates, ſhall ſuffer as felons without the benefit of clergy.

The moſt important tranſaction that had ever happened in Great Britain was finally and legally compleated at the cloſe of the year 1706, viz. a conſolidating union of the two Britannic kingdoms of England and Scotland, after their crowns had been united one hundred and four years before, in the perſon of King James the Firſt.

This great and happy union had been ſeveral times before attempted in different reigns, but had been as often obſtructed by various objections ſtarted, and not ſeriouſly and ſteadily endeavoured to be removed. Nothing certainly could be more obvious, than that it was the true intereſt of two nations ſolely inhabiting and poſſeſſing the ſame iſland, perfectly to unite for their common defence againſt all attacks from the continent: for, by ſuch a cloſe union of hearts as well as conſtitution, ſo ſituated, and ſo warlike; and alſo a people ſo numerous as to amount to about nine millions of ſouls, could in fact be always able to defend themſelves againſt any ſuch foreign attacks: but, remaining disjointed, they had different and often contrary intereſts to purſue, not only in matters of trade and commerce, product and manufactures, but even in friendſhip and affection with regard to different nations on the continent. Religion too, or rather indeed the mere external mode of it, contributed its ſhare in keeping up the difference; and, what had perhaps the greateſt influence of all, ancient ill-judged national prejudices on both ſides ſtill remained too ſtrong to be eaſily conquered.—Finally, the great hereditary officers of the weaker kingdom, and the poſſeſſors of many other lucrative ſtate offices there, which muſt neceſſarily be ſunk upon ſuch an incorporating union with England, had alſo no ſmall influence in obſtructing it. But an able miniſtry in both nations, more eſpecially in England, joined to a more moderate way of thinking, of many wiſe men in both Parliaments, amongſt the commiſſioners for this ſolemn treaty, at length got the better of all obſtructions: and, as preparatory laws were made in both kingdoms, and the Parliament of Scotland having firſt agreed to the articles of this ever-famous union, they were laſtly ratified by a moſt ſolemn act of the Engliſh Parliament, cap. viii. intitled, An Act for an Union of the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland. The articles are twenty-five in number: but, as it is foreign to our ſubject, and alſo ſuperfluous, to recite what is to be found in all our hiſtories at large, it will be ſufficient for our particular purpoſe briefly to note, that,

By the fourth article it was enacted, that " all the ſubjects of the united kingdom of Great " Britain ſhould, from and after the union, have full freedom and intercourſe of trade and " navigation to and from any port or place within the ſaid united kingdom, and the domi- " nions and plantations thereunto belonging: and that there ſhould be a communication of " all other rights, privileges, and advantages which do or may belong to the ſubject of either " kingdom; except where it is otherwiſe expreſsly agreed in theſe articles."

By the fifteenth article it was ſtipulated, " that whereas by the terms of this treaty, the " ſubjects of Scotland, for preſerving an equality of trade throughout the united kingdom, " will be liable to ſeveral cuſtoms and exciſes now payable in England, which will be appli- " cable towards payment of the debts of England contracted before the union, it is agreed, " that Scotland ſhall have an equivalent for what the ſubjects thereof ſhall be ſo charged to- " wards payment of the ſaid debts of England." Which equivalent is herein ſtipulated to be three hundred and ninety-eight thouſand and eighty-five pounds ten ſhillings ſterling, to be

granted

A. D. 1706 granted by the Parliament of England, as in this article is particularly and at large explained. The deſtination of which equivalent being in the ſame article applied,

Firſt, For indemnifying private perſons for any loſſes they may ſuſtain by reducing the coin of Scotland to the ſtandard and value of the coin of England.

Secondly, For indemnifying the ſufferers in the late African and Indian Company of Scotland.

Thirdly, For diſcharging the public debts of Scotland.—To ſay the truth, the Scots in general were ſo inflamed by England's deſtruction of their Darien or African Company, that nothing but the abſolute aſſurance of an equivalent for re-imburſing their whole capital, with intereſt, being two hundred and thirty-two thouſand one hundred and ſixty-two pounds ſixteen ſhillings and eleven pence five-ſixths, could have prepared their minds for this union.

Fourthly, For improving the manufacture of the coarſe wool of Scotland. And,

Fifthly, For encouraging and promoting the fiſheries, and ſuch other manufactures and improvements in Scotland as may moſt conduce to the general good of the united kingdom. For which ends commiſſioners were to be appointed, &c.—For which end alſo, the laws of England, relating to coin, and weights and meaſures, as well as concerning the regulation of trade, cuſtoms, and exciſes, were by the three ſucceeding articles to take place in Scotland.—This is the ſubſtance of all the articles that immeditely relate to our ſubject.

But before we treat of the actual commencement of this union, which was not till the ſucceeding year, we muſt, in order of time, remark, that, by an act of the Engliſh Parliament in the ſaid fifth year of Queen Anne, cap. xiii. For continuing the Duties upon Houſes, to ſecure a yearly fund for circulating Exchequer bills, whereby a ſum not exceeding one million five hundred thouſand pounds, is intended to be raiſed, &c. the Bank of England's fund and privileges, which had been limited to one year's notice after the firſt of Auguſt 1705, were further prolonged, upon their now undertaking to circulate the ſaid one million five hundred thouſand pounds in Exchequer bills, at four pounds ten ſhillings per cent. per annum. By this act, therefore, the bank was impowered to call in money from their members, for enabling them to circulate the ſaid Exchequer bills, in proportion to their reſpective ſtocks in that company. By which power there aroſe another temporary addition to their old capital, which had before been reduced to its original ſum of one million two hundred thouſand pounds, by the government's having gradually paid off the principal and intereſt of five million one hundred and ſixty thouſand four hundred and fifty-nine pounds fourteen ſhillings and nine pence farthing, which had been ſubſcribed into the bank in tallies, orders, &c. as has been fully related under the year 1697. This temporary addition to bank ſtock was one million one thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-one pounds ten ſhillings; which, with the ſaid one million two hundred thouſand pounds original capital, made the whole now amount to two million two hundred and one thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-one pounds ten ſhillings. And by this act the bank was to remain a corporation, until the redemption of all the ſaid one million five hundred thouſand pounds in Exchequer bills.

This was the firſt time that the Bank of England undertook the circulation of Exchequer bills, by which meaſure they rendered themſelves the favourites of the government; and they have ever ſince remained ſo, having from time to time bargained with the public for that purpoſe annually, on eaſy or moderate terms. In this ſame year, the bank again iſſued ſealed bills, for the better enabling them to perform their ſaid contracts, at an intereſt of two pence per cent. per diem, or three per cent. per annum.

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1707 The moſt important, wiſe, and happy incorporating Union of the Kingdoms of England and Scotland took place on the firſt day of May 1707. And although the two rebellions ſince that period were both originally propagated from Scotland, through the violence of party zeal, and of clanſhips and ſuperiorities, ſince wiſely aboliſhed; yet a peaceable, loyal, and induſtrious ſpirit having ſince univerſally prevailed, the great benefits accruing to both nations by this union appear more and more conſpicuous. From Scotland, not only the navy-royal but our land armies have been ſupplied with many thouſands of ſtout and well-affected men; as has been very effectually experienced.—By an union with Scotland ſhe has the more abſolute uſe of many good ports,—of a more extenſive fiſhery,—of a ſupply of very good though ſmall cattle, and of various other benefits.

Scotland, on the other hand, receives ineſtimable advantages by her incorporating union with England.

Firſt, By gradually and very viſibly enriching herſelf from a participation of commerce with England's foreign plantations, factories, &c.

Secondly, By her union with England, ſhe gradually learns the melioration of her ſoil, which in many parts is now known to be much more capable of improvement than was formerly imagined.

Thirdly, By this union, Scotland's coarſe woollen ſtuffs and ſtockings, and her more valuable linen manufactures, now of many various, beautiful, and ingenious kinds, have a prodigious vent, not only in England but for the American plantations; as well as the conſumption of ſo many of her black cattle in England, and of her peltry, &c. And great pity it truly may be ſaid to be, that two nations, ſprung from the ſame original ſtock, ſpeaking the ſame language, eſſentially profeſſing the ſame religion, and whom nature ſeems to have deſigned for one, by being ſeparated by the great ocean from the reſt of mankind, ſhould not have ſooner purſued their true and evident mutual intereſts, and thereby have much ſooner increaſed in wealth, ſecurity, and power. If, upon the death of King Alexander the Third, and of his grand child ſtiled, The Maid of Norway, Scotland had voluntarily united itſelf to England, near five hundred years ago, how much more populous, powerful, and rich, would both parts of the iſland have probably been at this time, as they would have naturally avoided much of the cruel bloodſhed and devaſtations, occaſioned by their many inteſtine wars ſince that period.

Conſidering the inferior number of people, and the greater poverty of Scotland, compared with England, it may not in this place be improper to remark the quantity of gold and ſilver coin of all ſorts, which, in conſequence of this union, was brought into the mint at Edinburgh, to be recoined into the pieces and denomination of ſterling money, and of coin not then brought in; we have it from the late accurate Mr. Thomas Ruddiman, in p. 84, of his moſt curious and learned Preface to Anderſon's Theſaurus Diplomatum et Numiſmatum Scotiæ; being no leſs than four hundred and eleven thouſand one hundred and ſeventeen pounds ten ſhillings and nine pence, actually then brought to that mint: beſides, perhaps, as much more hoarded up by the whimſical, diſaffected, and timorous, who were ſtrongly prepoſſeſſed againſt the union, and were far from believing it could laſt any length of time: beſide, alſo, what was then exported, and what was retained by ſilverſmiths for plate, &c. So that our ſaid author, upon the whole, is, for various reaſons, of opinion, (p. 85) that there was, in this year 1707, in gold and ſilver coin, about nine hundred thouſand pounds ſterling in Scotland.

Dr.

A. D. 1707 Dr. Fleetwood, afterwards Biſhop of Ely, now publiſhed his Chronicon Precioſum, to which we have before acknowledged ourſelves indebted for the rates or prices of proviſions in many different periods of time for ſome centuries paſt. Towards the latter part of that work, he gives us the true market price of wheat and malt for ſixty years, *i. e.* from 1646 to 1705, both incluſive. The higheſt price of wheat was four pounds five ſhillings per quarter, in the year 1648; and of malt, in the year 1659, two pounds eight ſhillings and eight pence: and the loweſt price of wheat in all that period was, one pound five ſhillings and two pence, in the year 1687; and of malt, in 1681, ſeventeen ſhillings and four pence. Thoſe of the year 1705, were one pound ten ſhillings for wheat, and one pound ſix ſhillings for malt.—Medium for wheat between thoſe two prices, is two pounds fifteen ſhillings and one penny. Medium for malt between thoſe two prices, is one pound thirteen ſhillings.

The good Biſhop obſerves,

Firſt, That in every year there are two prices of corn, viz. that at Lady-day, and that at Chriſtmas; both which he put together, and took half of the ſum, for the common price of that whole year.

Secondly, Of the firſt twenty years of the ſaid ſixty years, the price of wheat was two pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and five pence halfpenny; and of malt one pound twelve ſhillings and three farthings per quarter.

Thirdly, For the ſecond twenty years, from 1666 to 1685, wheat two pounds ſix ſhillings and three pence three farthings; and malt one pound five ſhillings and three pence three farthings.

Fourthly, In the laſt twenty years, viz. from 1686 to 1705, wheat two pounds five ſhillings and nine pence three farthings; and malt one pound five ſhillings and five pence farthing.

Fifthly, One year with another for the ſaid ſixty years, wheat was two pounds nine ſhillings and ten pence halfpenny; and malt one pound ſeven ſhillings and ſeven pence farthing. A ſimilar fluctuation in the rates of corn is ever to be expected, and has accordingly happened, down to our own times.

The Engliſh act of Parliament of the thirteenth and fourteenth of King Charles the Second, prohibiting the importation of foreign bone-lace, cut-work, embroidery-fringes, band-ſtrings, buttons, and needle-work, being found to obſtruct the vent of Engliſh woollen manufactures in the Spaniſh Netherlands, that act was now repealed, as far as relates to the ſaid Netherlands, by an act of the fifth of Queen Anne, cap. xvii.

By an act of the ſaid fifth of Queen Anne, cap. xxii. To explain and amend an act of the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, cap. xvi. for preventing Frauds frequently committed by Bankrupts, it was enacted,

"That bankrupts who ſhall, after the twenty-fifth of April 1707, remove, carry away, or "embezzle any part of their effects, ſhall ſuffer as felons. A bankrupt ſhall not be diſcharged "—unleſs his certificate be firſt ſigned by four-fifths in number and value of his creditors. "Commiſſioners of bankrupts may appoint aſſignees; who may, by a majority of the creditors, "be afterward removed.—No commiſſion of bankruptcy ſhall be iſſued by the application of "any creditor, unleſs his ſingle debt ſhall amount to one hundred pounds,—or of two creditors, ſo petitioning, one hundred and fifty pounds,—or of three or more creditors, to two "hundred pounds. This act to continue for two years, and from thence to the end of next "ſeſſion of Parliament, and no longer."

1707 By an act of Parliament toward the cloſe of this year, being the fourth of this Queen, cap. ii. For better ſecuring the Duty on Eaſt India Goods, "The ſecurity thereafter "to be given, purſuant to the act of the ninth of King William, cap. xliv. was, that the "Eaſt India Company ſhould cauſe all the merchandize laden in any ſhip bound from Eaſt "India to be brought to ſome port of England," (now to Great Britain) "without previouſ- "ly breaking bulk, there to be unladen; and that it ſhall be after the rate of two thouſand "five hundred pounds, for every hundred ton of each ſhip ſent to the Indies, neceſſary pro- "viſions, ſtores, and merchandizes for the people and garriſon of St. Helena, for their own "proper conſumption only, excepted; and except alſo, where the breaking of bulk, or land- "ing of goods, ſhall happen by the danger of the ſeas, enemies, reſtraints of princes, &c.— "under penalty of forfeiting ſuch goods or their value," &c.

A prudent law was at this time made for the advancement of our woollen manufacture, by a ſtatute of the ſixth of Queen Anne, cap. viii. For encouraging the Dreſſing and Dying of Woollen Cloths within the Kingdom of Great Britain, before Exportation, a duty of five ſhillings was laid on every white woollen cloth exported.—And it was alſo thereby enacted, that ſuch white cloths, commonly called broad cloth, ſhipped before the ſaid duty be paid, ſhall be forfeited.

1708 The old law of the firſt year of King James the Firſt, For the well-garbling of ſpices and drugs in London, which we did not judge worth while then to recite, being in length of time found to be not only uſeleſs, for the moſt part, but often prejudicial, was now repealed: and an equivalent given to the city of London for the profits formerly made by the garbler's office, by laying a tax of forty ſhillings yearly, to be paid to the Chamberlain of London, by all brokers; who, acting as ſuch, without regular admittance, were now to forfeit twenty-five pounds. Nevertheleſs, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, may, if they ſo judge fit, appoint a perſon to be a garbler; who, at the requeſt of the owner of any ſpices, drugs, &c. garbleable, and not otherwiſe, ſhall garble the ſame, for ſuch fee as the Lord Mayor, &c. ſhall appoint.

In this ſame year, the Britiſh revenue being under the management of ſo able and upright a Lord Treaſurer as the Earl of Godolphin, the credit of the public was on ſo good a footing, that it was judged adviſeable to avail the nation thereof, by reducing the rate of intereſt on the debt of two millions due to the Eaſt India Company. This was done in the ſaid ſixth year of Queen Anne, by a ſtatute, cap. xvii. For aſſuring to the Engliſh Company trading to the Eaſt Indies, on Account of the United Stock, a longer time in the Fund and Trade.—And for raiſing thereby one million two hundred thouſand pounds, for her Majeſty's occaſions.

Hereby the Engliſh Company, (which, by uniting the whole trade in the year 1702, as has been related, conſiſted of themſelves and of the old company ſtill ſubſiſting, and likewiſe of ſeven thouſand two hundred pounds ſubſcribed in the year 1698, by ſeparate traders, as part of the ſaid capital of two millions) now advanced one million two hundred thouſand pounds without any additional intereſt. So as the whole capital now conſiſting of three millions two hundred thouſand pounds ſhould thenceforth receive of the public but five per cent. intereſt, or one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds per annum: "on condition, that the term of their "excluſive trade to India ſhould be prolonged for fourteen years and an half longer. That "is to ſay, whereas, by the law of 1698, they were to be redeemable, upon three years "notice after 1711, and repayment of principal and intereſt; their redemption was now prolonged

A. D. 1708 " longed to three years notice after Lady-day 1726. And for enabling the Engliſh Company " to make good this loan to the public, they were by this act impowered to borrow as far as " one million five hundred thouſand pounds on bonds, over and above what they were legally " impowered to do before, and alſo to make calls of money from their proprietors. The " proprietors of the ſeven thouſand two hundred pounds in ſeparate trade, may ſtill continue " ſo to trade till Michaelmas 1711, when the united company may, on three years notice " pay the ſame off;—whereby their privileges of trading ſhall be ſolely veſted in the company. " By this act, that part of the act of the twelfth of King William, which laid a duty of five " per cent. on exported goods to India, was to ceaſe from Michaelmas 1714. And, in order " for a ſpeedy and complete union to be perfected between the old and new companies, in " purſuance of the indenture-tripartite, in the year 1702, the final determination of all matters in difference between the ſaid companies, and the compleating of their union was hereby referred to the Earl of Godolphin, Lord High Treaſurer of Great Britain, as his lordſhip ſhall think fit, by an award, in writing, under his hand and ſeal: the whole to be compleated, and the old company's charter to be ſurrendered, by Michaelmas 1708. After " which, the united company's ſtile and title to be," as it ſtill is, " The united Company " of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies."

It is almoſt needleſs to remark, that much clamour was raiſed againſt this renewal of the excluſive privileges of trading to India, as it was naturally to be expected, and had always before happened on every ſuch renewal. Many pamphlets were publiſhed for inducing the legiſlature to lay that trade open; or, at leaſt, to let Briſtol, Liverpool, Hull, and other great trading towns into a proportionable ſhare of the trade. It was plauſibly ſaid, that it was hard London alone ſhould engroſs all this vaſt commerce, whereas the Dutch Eaſt India Company comprehended ſix of their towns therein, in the year 1602, when that company was firſt ſettled on its preſent eſtabliſhment. But the (at leaſt equally plauſible) anſwer was, that, as it is a transferable ſtock, every perſon in the three kingdoms might freely purchaſe ſhares therein. It is alſo unneceſſary further to remark, that a ſimilar clamour was afterwards renewed, as often as the legiſlature was applied to for a further prolongation of their ſaid excluſive privileges; and this, probably, will continue to be the caſe in any future application for the ſame purpoſe.

To complete all that is needful to be known concerning this union of theſe two Eaſt India Companies, we ſhall here further obſerve, that the following regulations were in conſequence thereof made, viz.

Firſt, For every hundred pound old ſtock there was given one hundred pounds eight ſhillings and ten-pence ſtock in the united company.

Secondly, Twenty-five one half per cent. was made a call on the proprietors of the old company, for enabling them to be joined to the united one.

Thirdly, The remaining debts owing to, and effects of, the old company, were veſted in truſtees for the benefit of the proprietors of the old company, who were ſuch at the time of uniting with the new one.

By a ſtatute of this ſixth year of Queen Anne, cap. xxii. for continuing ſeveral duties therein mentioned, upon coffee, &c.—And for ſecuring the credit of the Bank of England, &c.—It was, amongſt many other points enacted, " that during the continuance of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, it ſhall not be lawful for any body-politic, " erected or to be erected, other than the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of Eng-

A. D.
1708 " land; or, for other perſons whatſoever, united or to be united in covenants or partnerſhip, " exceeding the number of ſix perſons, in that part of Great Britain called England," (this law could not meddle with the Bank of Scotland, as it was legally eſtabliſhed in the year 1695, " to borrow, owe, or take up any ſum or ſums of money on their bills or notes, payable at " demand, or at any leſs time than ſix months from the borrowing thereof." The reaſon herein aſſigned for this enacting clauſe, was, " that ſome corporations, notwithſtanding the " law of the eighth year of King William, cap. xix. by colour of their charters; and other " great number of perſons, by pretence of deeds or covenants united together, had preſumed " to borrow great ſums of money; and therewith to deal as a bank, to the apparent danger " of the eſtabliſhed credit of the kingdom."

This clauſe was principally aimed at the Mine-adventure Company, who, contrary to law, had ſet up banking, and iſſued caſh notes, &c. as we have already related.

In this ſame year, (a year, in ſeveral reſpects, proſperous to England and her allies) the iſland of Minorca, with its commodious haven of Port Mahon, and its ſtrong fort of St. Philip, belonging to Spain, was ſubdued by the Britiſh forces, commanded by Major General Stanhope. By poſſeſſing whereof, Mr. Burchett, in his Naval Hiſtory, obſerves, " that we " have the advantage of a goodly harbour, which during the war was exceeding uſeful to us, " (as it may hereafter be on the like occaſion) in the cleanſing and refitting ſuch of our ſhips " as were employed in the Mediterranean: and not only magazines of ſtores were lodged there " for that purpoſe, but ſuch officers were appointed to reſide on the place as were judged re- " quiſite." The ſhameful loſs of this iſland, in the year 1756, can never be thought on by Britons without indignation.

The French King intending this year an invaſion of Scotland, for ſupporting the Pretender's claim; there enſued a great demand, or run (as it is uſually termed) on the Bank of England: and the credit thereof being ſo nearly connected with that of the Exchequer,—the Lord Treaſurer Godolphin, for the applying of an effectual remedy thereto, ſignified to the Directors of the Bank, that the Queen would, for ſix months, allow an intereſt of ſix per cent. on their ſealed bills, which till then bore only three per cent. Moreover, his lordſhip, and the Dukes of Marlborough, Newcaſtle, and Somerſet, and many other lords offered to advance to the Bank conſiderable ſums of money: by which encouragement, and their making a call of twenty per cent. on their capital, the Bank was enabled to weather that ſtorm, and to preſerve their credit.

In the ſame year, a ſimilar ſtatute for the regiſter of deeds, conveyances, wills, devices, mortgages, &c. in the Eaſt Riding of Yorkſhire, was made in the ſixth year of Queen Anne, cap. xxv. as had been made for the Weſt Riding of the ſame county four years before: and for much the ſame reaſons as were aſſigned for that; only the neceſſity of ſuch a regiſter is, in the preſent act, put ſomewhat ſtronger. It is herein ſaid, " that the lands in the ſaid Eaſt " Riding, and in the town and county of the town of Kingſton upon Hull, being generally " freehold; they may be ſo ſecretly transferred or conveyed from one perſon to another, that " ſuch as are ill-diſpoſed have it in their power to commit frauds, and frequently do ſo, by " means whereof ſeveral perſons (who through many years induſtry in their trades and em- " ployments, and by great frugality have been enabled to purchaſe lands, or to lend monies " on land ſecurity) have been undone in their purchaſes and mortgages, by prior and ſecret " conveyances, and fraudulent incumbrances; and not only themſelves, but their whole " families thereby utterly ruined. All the proviſions and clauſes in this act, were hereby ex-

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A. D. 1708 " tended to the honors, manors, lands, and tenements in the Weſt Riding of that county; " the two former acts relating to it being found defective in ſeveral particulars."

Loud complaints being at this time made againſt the London pawn-brokers, on account of their grinding the faces of the poor by the extravagant uſury they took for pledges or pawns, even the moſt moderate of them taking at leaſt thirty per cent. and ſome twice as much; this produced an application to the crown, for a charter to incorporate a number of perſons of credit, which they obtained, in the year 1708, under the name of the Charitable Corporation, for lending money to the induſtrious but neceſſitous poor at a moderate intereſt. Yet, as their capital was but thirty thouſand pounds, they did not ſufficiently extend their ſcheme until the year 1719, when ſeveral gentlemen of fortune came into it. Their conditions for lending were only ten per cent. viz. five per cent. as for mere intereſt, and the other five per cent. for ſupporting the expence of the corporation, ſuch as houſe and warehouſe rent, ſalaries of officers and ſervants, &c. In 1725, they obtained from the crown a further augmentation of their capital, and ſoon after another: and their directors proceeded to borrow large ſums of money for the ſupport of their ſcheme. But, in a few years after, a diſcovery was made of many and great frauds committed by their ſervants, ſuch as, loans on fictitious pawns, embezzlements, &c. which occaſioned a parliamentary enquiry; the reſult of which was, that, by ſuch frauds and miſmanagements, the corporation had not effects ſufficient to pay even but a ſmall part of the money they had borrowed at intereſt of a great number of perſons, many of whom were thereby reduced to great diſtreſs; the whole amounting to four hundred and eighty-ſeven thouſand eight hundred and ninety-five pounds fourteen ſhillings and ten-pence three farthings, to anſwer which there remained no more in money and other effects than thirty-four thouſand one hundred and fifty pounds thirteen ſhillings and one-penny halfpenny, excepting what may be recovered from the debtors of the corporation, which (ſays the ſtatute aftername) was then uncertain. Hereupon, the Houſe of Commons expelled ſuch of their members as were directors thereof; moſt of whom had in other reſpects retained, till that period, fair characters. And, in the year 1733, the Parliament, being the ſixth of George the Second, cap. xxxv. granted a lottery for five hundred thouſand pounds, for the relief of the ſufferers, who, in the terms of this ſtatute, ſhall appear to be objects of compaſſion to five Maſters in Chancery, therein named; out of which twenty-five pounds per cent. was deducted for the benefit of the ſaid ſufferers, and was in the following year diſtributed amongſt them, (after all the expence of this lottery was deducted) amounting to nine ſhillings and nine-pence per pound of their ſaid loſs; by an act of the eighth of King George the Second, cap. xi. in the year 1734.

1709 The general naturalization in England of foreign Proteſtants has been variouſly reaſoned upon by many perſons, in different periods. In the beginning of the year 1709, a bill was ordered into the Houſe of Commons for that end; in favour of which, it was argued, that very great benefits would thereby accrue to Britain. That by the King of Pruſſia's inviting the French Refugees to ſettle in his dominions, he had fertilized a barren and ill-peopled country, improved its trade and manufactures, and increaſed his own revenues, &c. The preamble of the act, therefore, of this ſeventh of Queen Anne, cap. v. for naturalizing foreign Proteſtants, obſerves, that, " whereas the increaſe of people is a means of advancing the " wealth and ſtrength of a nation,—it was therefore enacted,

" I. That all perſons born out of the leigeance of her Majeſty, who ſhall take and ſubſcribe " the oaths, and the declaration of the ſixth of this reign, ſhall be deemed, adjudged, and

A. D. 1709 "taken to be her Majeſty's natural-born ſubjects.—Provided, they ſhall have received the "ſacrament of the Lord's Supper in ſome Proteſtant or reformed congregation within this "kingdom of Great Britain, within three months before their taking the ſaid oaths, and "ſhall produce a certificate ſigned by the perſon adminiſtering the ſaid ſacrament, and atteſted "by two credible witneſſes.

"II. That the children of all natural-born ſubjects, though born out of the leigeance of "her Majeſty, her heirs, and ſucceſſors, ſhall be deemed and adjudged to be natural-born "ſubjects of this kingdom to all intents, conſtructions, and purpoſes whatſoever. And,

"III. The like naturalization of foreign Proteſtants ſhall take place in Ireland." This clauſe is further explained by cap. xxi. of the fourth of King George the Second. This law was ſaid to have been made with a particular view to the Proteſtant Palatines brought this year into England.

For, in May in this ſame year, near ſeven thouſand of the poor Palatines and Swabians, of and near the Rhine in Germany, who had been utterly ruined, and driven from their habitations by the French, were, in compaſſion of their miſery, brought over to England, and were ſoon after followed by more: but without any ſettled or concerted plan for their eſtabliſhment any where. Had they been all immediately tranſported to ſome one or more of our American continent colonies, they would before now have raiſed a conſiderably great addition to our ſtrength in thoſe parts. Others propoſed to ſettle them in the New Foreſt of Hampſhire, where lands might be parcelled out for them by ſhares or lots. It was, without doubt, an ill-conducted though well-meant affair. Being however come, there was a neceſſity of keeping them from periſhing. A ſufficient number of tents was erected for them on Blackheath and near Camberwell, and a brief throughout Great Britain was granted for a collection for them. Some of them were taken into private families: five hundred families of them were ſent into Ireland, where twenty-four thouſand pounds was granted by Parliament for their ſupport. Three thouſand of them were at length ſent over to New York, and ſettled upon Hudſon's river; yet many of whom being badly received there, they removed to Pennſylvania, where they were moſt kindly entertained by the Quakers, which afterward proved the means of drawing thither many thouſands of German and Swiſs Proteſtants, ſo that Pennſylvania is ſince become by far the moſt populous and flouriſhing colony (for its ſtanding) of North America.

The new miniſtry influenced the Houſe of Commons ſo far, in their new Parliament, in the year 1711, in order to caſt an odium on the late adminiſtration, as to obtain a reſolution of that Houſe, "that the inviting over the ſaid Palatines of all religions, at the public ex-"pence, was an extravagant and unreaſonable charge to the kingdom, and a ſcandalous miſ-"application of the public money; tending to the increaſe and oppreſſion of the poor of this "kingdom, and of dangerous conſequence to the conſtitution in church and ſtate. And that "whoever adviſed the bringing them over was an enemy to the Queen and kingdom." Yet all further enquiry was dropped.

During all this reign, the bank of England had been extremely convenient and uſeful to the public, for the ſupport of national credit: the better therefore to enable that corporation to be further beneficial to the public, as well as to themſelves, by aſſiſting in raiſing the ſupplies for the current ſervice of the year 1709, the bank was encouraged to propoſe to the Houſe of Commons, in this ſeventh year of Queen Anne, a ſcheme for circulating two millions five hundred thouſand pounds of Exchequer bills; in which year the whole ſupply voted amount-

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A. D. 1709 ed to above ſeven millions. An act of Parliament therefore paſſed in this year, cap. vii. "For enlarging the capital ſtock of the Bank of England; and for raiſing a further ſupply to her Majeſty for the ſervice of the year 1709. Wherein the act for the firſt eſtabliſhment of the bank, and all the ſubſequent ſtatutes, are in part recited.—And that the bank continues to permit new ſubſcriptions for the doubling of their preſent ſtock of two millions two hundred and one thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-one pounds ten ſhillings, by ſelling their ſaid additional ſtock at the rate of one hundred and fifteen pounds for every one hundred pounds ſubſcribed." All which was ſubſcribed for between the hours of nine in the morning and one in the afternoon, on the firſt day of opening the ſubſcription-books. This was by foreigners eſteemed a pregnant proof of the great wealth of the nation, more eſpecially as near one million more would have been on the ſame day ſubſcribed, had there been room for it; ſo great was the crowd of people coming with their money to the books. But, like the Eaſt India Company's caſe, already recited, the bank hereby obliged themſelves to advance to the government four hundred thouſand pounds, without any additional allowance of intereſt for the laſt-named ſum; which made their original capital of one million two hundred thouſand pounds, at eight per cent. amount to one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds, at ſix per cent. intereſt, to commence from the firſt of Auguſt, 1711, being their original yearly fund. And as the bank had ſix per cent. per annum, diſcount was thereby allowed them on the ſaid four hundred thouſand pounds till the firſt of Auguſt, 1711, for the money they were ſo to pay in; and the ſaid fifteen per cent. advance on the ſale of this additional ſtock, enabled them to make this payment of four hundred thouſand pounds to the public.

	£.	s.	d.
Thus the bank capital (a part of which was only temporary) till now, was	2,201,171	10	0
And was now doubled — — —	2,201,171	10	0
	4,402,343	0	0
And by the four hundred thouſand pounds now further advanced	400,000	0	0
The total was now to be, at ſix per cent. intereſt — —	4,802,343	0	0
In conſideration of which ſum of four hundred thouſand pounds ſo lent, without any additional intereſt, their excluſive privileges, as a bank, were hereby prolonged to one year's notice, after the firſt of Auguſt, 1732.—But, by the ſame ſtatute, the bank obliged themſelves to pay off and cancel all the Exchequer bills which had been before iſſued, amounting, with their intereſt, at ſix per cent. to — — —	1,775,027	17	10½
Total capital of the bank, by this act, was — —	6,577,370	17	10½

Much about this ſame time, and probably by way of imitation, the French court formed a project for a royal bank, for the circulation of their mint-bills; but the great ſcarcity of money at that time in France rendered the deſign impracticable.

By this ſame act of Parliament, the bank was to remain and be an eſtabliſhed corporation, notwithſtanding the acts of the fifth and eighth of King William; and all their former privileges were now confirmed, as alſo their original annual fund of one hundred thouſand pounds, until the whole one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds ſhould be paid off; and alſo the annuity of one hundred and ſix thouſand five hundred and one pounds thirteen ſhillings and five-

1709 pence, after-mentioned; and until all the Exchequer bills, to be made forth purſuant to this act, ſhall be called in, as herein after-mentioned, and payment made of the allowances for circulating the ſame. Then, and not before, the corporation was to ceaſe and determine. The ſaid one hundred and ſix thouſand five hundred and one pounds thirteen ſhillings and five-pence, was to be the intereſt, at ſix per cent. of the ſaid one million ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand and twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten pence halfpenny. The bank to be allowed three per cent. per annum, for circulating the ſaid two millions and a half of Exchequer bills, which were alſo to be at a like intereſt of three per cent. or two-pence per cent. per day, except when they ſhall be in the Exchequer, or in the hands of the receivers or collectors of any taxes, cuſtoms, &c. payable to her Majeſty.—The bank might make calls on their members for enabling them to circulate the Exchequer bills.—The bank might make dividends to their members of their principal or capital ſtock, as they afterwards did of the ſaid one million ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand and twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten-pence halfpenny; which principal ſtock, however, ſhall always remain at leaſt equal to all the debts they ſhall owe; otherwiſe the particular members, receiving ſuch dividends, ſhall be anſwerable, ſo far as ſuch dividends ſhall extend. The reſt of this long act relates to the duties and taxes to be raiſed for a fund for paying the intereſt on the above-named principal ſums.

By a printed paper in the authors collections, taken from a report to the Houſe of Commons, we have the following accurate account of the revenue of the cuſtoms of Great Britain, for the year 1709, viz.

The groſs amount of the cuſtoms, was — — —				£.2,319,320
Deduct, viz.				
I. Salaries and incidents, — —	£.152,184,	12	1	
II. Debentures, or drawbacks, on foreign goods,	717,190,	17	2	
III. Bounty-money for corn exported, —	36,027	1	4	
IV. Allowances for damages and over-entries, —	57,075	15	0¼	
V. Portage paid to maſters of ſhips — —	3,358	19	6	
				965,837
Nett amount of the cuſtoms, in the year 1709. — —				£.1,353,483

☞ See more, under the year 1715.

In Dr. D'Avenant's Report to the Commiſſioners of Accounts, part i. p. 32, London, 1712, he gives the total importation of tobacco from America into England, at a medium of ten years, ending in 1709, viz.

Imported, pounds weight, on a medium, yearly — —	28,858,666
Exported, on a like medium — — — —	17,598,007
Conſumed at home, pounds weight — — —	11,260,659

In this ſame year, the Britiſh Houſe of Commons took the African trade into their conſideration, and, in a grand committee, reſolved, "that as that trade was more eſpecially "neceſſary for the Britiſh American plantations, it ought to be free to all her Majeſty's ſub-"jects, in a regulated, and not an excluſive company." Yet when a bill for that end was brought into the Houſe, it met with ſo many objections that it was dropped for this time.

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A. D. 1709 The regulations which had been legally made in the year 1698, concerning the trade to Africa, had not given ſatisfaction to the ſeparate traders, on account of the company's bad conduct; which made thoſe ſeparate traders apply, as above, for ſuch a law; as they alſo did in the year following, with equal ſucceſs, after many hearings of the company as well as of the ſeparate traders; the Parliament finding it extremely difficult to obviate and remove the objections ſtarted on either ſide, in relation to that commerce.

We need but juſt to mention the propoſals of France, in the year 1709, and the conferences held, in conſequence thereof, at Gertruydenberg, in the former part of the following year, for a general peace with the Grand Allies. They were, at beſt, but ſpecious, and, in the opinion of the ableſt judges, they were thought inſidious; there being no ſolid ſecurity to the Allies that France would perform the conditions. It is true, that much worſe terms of peace were concluded three years after this treaty was broken off: but as theſe bad terms were owing to a new Engliſh miniſtry, who, in order to keep themſelves in power, were determined to abandon our allies rather than not obtain a peace with France, though on unworthy terms; the miniſters of the allies, at Gertruydenberg, were not the leſs juſtifiable for breaking off the inſecure propoſals of an ever-perfidious enemy.

We have, in this year 1709, a third inſtance of the legal regiſtering of deeds in England, in the ſeventh of Queen Anne, cap. xx. being a law made for the public regiſtering of deeds, conveyances, and wills, and other incumbrances which ſhall be made of, or that may affect any honors, manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments within the county of Middleſex. The preamble to which runs in ſuch a ſtrong and juſt ſtrain, as ſeems well to merit the ſerious conſideration of both the landed and monied intereſt in every other county of England, viz. "Whereas, by the different and ſecret ways of conveying lands, tenements, and hereditaments, ſuch as are ill-diſpoſed have it in their power to commit frauds, and frequently do ſo, by means whereof ſeveral perſons (who through many years induſtry in their trades and employments, and by great frugality have been enabled to purchaſe lands, or to lend monies on land ſecurity) have been undone in their purchaſes and mortgages by prior and ſecret conveyances and fraudulent incumbrances; and not only themſelves, but their whole families thereby utterly ruined." Wherefore, it was now enacted, "that a memorial of all deeds, &c. and of all wills and devices in writing, may be regiſtered by the proper officers hereby appointed, for the fee of only one ſhilling. And every deed or conveyance which ſhall hereafter be executed, ſhall be adjudged fraudulent and void againſt any ſubſequent purchaſer or mortgagee for valuable conſideration, unleſs ſuch memorial thereof be regiſtered as by this act is directed, before the regiſtering of the memorial of the deed or conveyance under which ſuch ſubſequent purchaſer or mortgagee ſhall claim: and the like as to memorials of wills not regiſtered." The preamble declares this act to have been made, "at the humble requeſt of the juſtices of peace, gentlemen, and freeholders of the county of Middleſex:"

Notwithſtanding all which, and of the evident utility and ſafety of a general regiſter for all England; an attempt for it, many years after this time, was unaccountably rejected.

1710 By an act of Parliament of the eighth of Queen Anne, cap. xii. "the entrance into the port of Liverpool having been long experienced to be ſo dangerous and difficult," ſays its preamble, "that great numbers of ſtrangers and others have frequently loſt their lives with ſhips and goods, for want of proper land marks, buoys, and other directions into the ſaid port or harbour, and more eſpecially for want of a convenient wet dock or baſon therein:

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1710 " the ſame was now hereby enacted to be made and effected, by laying a duty or tax, for " twenty-one years, from Midſummer 1710, on the tonnage of all ſhips trading to and from " the ſaid port to any part of Britain and Ireland, as well as to and from foreign countries." Which tonnage duties have fully anſwered the ends hereby propoſed, the ſaid wet dock, in particular, having been long ſince compleated to the great emolument of that moſt mercantile and opulent town, which is long ago become the third port (after London and Briſtol) of Great Britain, whether the number of its ſtout merchant ſhips, or of its opulent and reputable merchants be conſidered.

Under the year 1704, we have briefly laid open the iniquitous proceedings of Sir Humphry Mackworth and his tools, of the Mine-adventurers Company, to the great hurt of many perſons and families: the proprietors and creditors of that company having in this year petitioned the Houſe of Commons, a committee of that houſe was appointed to make a ſtrict enquiry into the ſame. The reſult was, that it appeared, they had loſt eighty-eight thouſand pounds by banking, and had ſquandered away great ſums on Sir Humphry Mackworth's other wild and wicked projects, (not material now to be enlarged on). Wherefore the Houſe of Commons, on the thirty-firſt of March, 1710, reſolved, *nemine contradicente*, " that it appears to this houſe, that Sir Humphry Mackworth is guilty of many notorious and ſcandalous frauds and indirect practices, in violating the charter granted to the ſaid company, " in breach of his truſt, and to the manifeſt wrong and oppreſſion of the proprietors and " creditors of the company. And the like unanimity is voted againſt William Sheres, the " company's ſecretary, and Dykes, their treaſurer. And that a bill be brought in for preventing them from leaving the kingdom, or alienating their eſtates." This arch hypocrite, pretending great zeal for religion, ſo called, and the Tory party, was thereby ſcreened from any further cenſure or ſuffering, by the new miniſtry, who, ſoon after this, got into power: and the above-mentioned bill was prevented from paſſing into a law by the adjournment of the ſaid Parliament. And, notwithſtanding all the above diſgrace received by Sir Humphry Mackworth, he had the effrontery to appear again at the head of this company with new propoſals, in the year 1720, though then and ever ſince, little better than a mere bubble.

The ſtatute of the fifty-firſt year of King Henry the Third, in the year 1266, entitled, *Aſſiza Panis et Cerivicia*, *i. e.* For ſettling the Aſſize of Bread and Ale, being now obſcure, and otherwiſe impracticable for modern times; the poorer ſort of people, more eſpecially, had ſince been deceived and oppreſſed by an almoſt total neglect, in many places, of the due aſſize and reaſonable price of bread; " for remedy whereof, and that a plain and conſtant rule and " method may henceforward be duly obſerved and kept, in the making and aſſizing of the " ſeveral ſorts of bread made for ſale," ſays the preamble to an act of Parliament of the eighth of Queen Anne, cap. xviii. it was now enacted, " that ſo much of the ſtatute of the ſaid " fifty-firſt year of King Henry the Third, as relates to the aſſize of bread, be repealed. And " that from the firſt of May 1710, the court of the lord mayor and aldermen of London and " its liberties, or the lord mayor alone, by the order of the ſaid court; and the mayor, bailiffs, " aldermen, and other chief magiſtrates of any other city or town corporate; and two or " more juſtices of the peace, in ſuch places where there ſhall be no ſuch mayor, &c. ſhall " reſpectively, and from time to time, aſcertain and appoint, within their reſpective juriſdictions, the aſſize and weight of all ſorts of bread, to be ſold by any baker or other perſon " whatſoever,—having reſpect to the price which the grain, meal, or flour, whereof ſuch " bread ſhall be made, ſhall bear in the ſeveral public markets, in or about the city, town

A. D. 1710 "corporate, burgh, or place, where ſuch aſſize ſhall be ſo ſet, making reaſonable allowance "to the bakers for their charges, pains and livelihoods; the ſaid aſſize to be ſet in Averdupois weight."

"Moreover, it was enacted, "that none ſhall make for ſale any ſorts of bread, but white, "wheaten, and houſhold; and ſuch other ſort and ſorts of bread as ſhall be publicly licenſed "and allowed by the before-named magiſtrates in London and elſewhere. All which ſeveral "ſorts of bread ſhall be made in their ſeveral reſpective degrees, according to the goodneſs of "the ſeveral ſorts of grain whereof the ſame ought to be made; and the aſſize and weight of "the ſaid white, wheaten, and houſhold bread made of wheat, ſhall be ſet and aſcertained "according to the table annexed." Being a table of the aſſize of bread, in pounds, ounces, and drams, Averdupois weight, reſpecting, or in proportion to the price of the buſhel of wheat, and the baking, from a penny loaf to an eighteen-penny loaf, of the ſaid three ſorts of flour, viz. white, wheaten, and houſhold.

"And to the intent that this law may be effectually complied with, every baker ſhall fairly "imprint or mark on his loaves, the ſort, price, and weight of ſuch loaf, or ſuch other mark "as the ſaid magiſtrates ſhall direct; who are alſo hereby authorized, from time to time, to "limit, direct, and appoint, in what manner each ſort of bread ſhall be marked; or to make "any other reaſonable rules and orders for the better regulating of bakers, and of the whole "of this buſineſs of the aſſize of bread. And bakers contravening this law and the magiſ-"trates ſaid reaſonable regulations, on the confeſſion of the party, or on the oath of one or "more credible witneſs or witneſſes, before any of the ſaid magiſtrates, ſhall for every ſuch "offence forfeit the ſum of forty ſhillings to the informer. Which conviction ſhall be cer-"tified to the general quarter-ſeſſions, to be there entered upon record. But the proſecution "of ſuch offence ſhall be commenced within three days next after the offence committed: "and the offender may appeal to the next quarter ſeſſions, when, failing of his allegations, "he ſhall pay coſts; as, on the other hand, the informer ſhall do, to the baker, if he fail "in his allegations.

"Bakers, mixing any other grain in their bread than the three ſorts herein mentioned, "ſhall forfeit twenty ſhillings; and any magiſtrate, wilfully omitting the performance of his "duty herein, ſhall forfeit the like ſum. Any of the within named magiſtrates may, in the "day time, enter into any baker's houſe or ſhop, for ſearching, weighing, and trying of his "bread, which, if deficient either in weight, due baking, or not being duly marked, or of a "worſe quality than is directed by this act, may be ſeized and given to the poor; and the "baker, making reſiſtance, ſhall forfeit forty ſhillings. This act ſhall not affect the privi-"leges of the two Engliſh Univerſities; and ſhall continue for three years, and till the end of "the next ſeſſion of Parliament."

The due aſſize of bread being ſo neceſſary for our manufacturers and artificers, as well as for all other people, this abſtract of ſo good a law, ſince made perpetual, ſeemed proper to be now exhibited.

By two well-judged acts of Queen Anne's ſeventh and eighth years (the former, cap. xxvi.; the latter, cap. xxi.) for the better ſecuring her Majeſty's docks, ſhips of war, and ſtores, commiſſioners were appointed to treat for the purchaſe of ſuch lands, tenements, &c. as ſhould be judged proper for the better fortifying of Portſmouth, Chatham, and Harwich; *i. e.* for enlarging and ſtrengthening their fortifications. And proper juries were to be ſummoned for aſcertaining the juſt value of all ſuch lands and hereditaments as ſhould be wanted for thoſe

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1710 purpoſes. We ſhall hereafter ſee that this good plan has been ſince enlarged, and alſo further extended to Plymouth and Milford-haven, and greater quantities of ground have been purchaſed for extending and improving the fortifications of Portſmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth; which, nevertheleſs, are, by moſt good judges of fortifications, ſtill thought, in ſome reſpects, inſufficient, conſidering the great danger the navy-royal and the royal ſtores would be expoſed to, were an enemy vigorouſly to attack Portſmouth, Plymouth, or Chatham.

The Czar of Muſcovy's rapid progreſs againſt Sweden had now well-nigh ruined that kingdom; for he not only reduced part of Finland, all Carelia, and the iſle of Oeſel; but, what was much more valuable than them all, the flower of all the Swediſh dominions, the rich, commercial and extenſive country of Livonia, with the cities and ports of Riga, Revel, Narva, Pernau, &c. all which Ruſſia retains to this day; thereby, in the opinion of many, diſcompoſing the balance of power and of commerce in the North.

In this year General Nicholſon, with a force from England jointly with the New England forces, attacked and eaſily reduced a part of Nova Scotia, and particularly the fort of Port Royal, (which had been yielded to France by the peace of Ryſwich) changing its name to that of Annapolis Royal, which it ſtill retains, being alſo afterward confirmed to us by the peace of Utrecht. It ſtands in the Bay of Fundy, on the edge of a fine harbour or baſon, capable of receiving one thouſand ſhips, with good anchorage in all parts of it. This port was the rendezvous of French privateers in time of war, and of the French Indians for invading the eaſtern frontiers of New England; and therefore of the greater importance to be ſecured to us.

According to Dr. D'Avenant's New Dialogues, publiſhed in the year 1710, vol. ii. p. 74, there was coined in England between the years 1659 and 1710, in gold and ſilver, the ſum of twenty one millions four hundred and nineteen thouſand three hundred and ſeven pounds. Concerning which recoinages, enough has been ſaid in different parts of this work.

The ſame author, *ibid.* p. 95, ſays, he is credibly informed, “ that the bank of Amſterdam contains no leſs, in effectual gold and ſilver, than thirty-ſix millions, ſterling.” Yet our great Sir William Temple writes with more caution on this particular point, as already related.

1711 It having been found inconvenient, that any perſon ſhould, at one and the ſame time, be a director of the Bank of England and of the Eaſt India Company: it was in this ſame year accordingly decreed, by a clauſe in an act of Parliament, of the ninth of Queen Anne, cap. vii. (for enabling and obliging the Bank of England, for the time therein mentioned, to exchange all Exchequer-bills for ready money upon demand) to diſable any perſon to be governor, deputy governor, or director of the Bank of England, and a director of the Eaſt India Company, at the ſame time.

By the tenth act of the ſaid ninth year of Queen Anne, the former laws for eſtabliſhing the poſt-offices in both kingdoms of England and Scotland were repealed; and one general poſt-office, as alſo one general poſt-maſter, was now appointed for the united kingdom: and alſo a chief letter-office was erected at Edinburgh, Dublin, New York, and the Weſt Indies.—Whereby alſo the poſtage of letters was increaſed, viz. what paid before but two-pence now paid three-pence, and for double letters ſix-pence, &c. “ And for the port of all and every “ the letters and packets, by the carriage called the Penny-poſt, eſtabliſhed within London, “ Weſtminſter, and Southwark, and parts adjacent, and to be received and delivered within

A. D. 1711 “ ten miles from the ſaid general letter-office in London, one penny,” which is the firſt mention of a penny-poſt in the ſtatute book. See the year 1683.

	£.	s.	d.
By this act the amount (groſs) for one year, ended at Michaelmas 1710, of the poſt-office, was — — — —	111,461	17	10
Dr. D'Avenant's New Dialogues make the net amount, on a medium of the three laſt years, to be — — — —	56,664	19	10½

By an act of the ſaid ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xvii. for the preſerving of white and other pine trees, growing in her Majeſty's colonies of New Hampſhire, the Maſſachuſet's Bay, and province of Main, Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantation; the Narraganſet-country or King's Province, and Connecticut in New England, alſo in New York, and New Jerſey, in America, for the maſtering of her Majeſty's navy; it is enacted, “ that whereas there are “ great numbers of thoſe trees growing in the ſaid provinces, near the ſea and on navigable “ rivers, which may be commodiouſly brought into this kingdom for that ſervice: for the “ better preſervation thereof,—no perſon after the twenty-fourth of September, 1711, in any “ of the ſaid colonies ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any of thoſe trees fit for maſts, “ not being the property of any private perſon, if ſuch tree be of the growth of twenty-four “ inches diameter and upwards, at twelve inches from the earth; without the Queen's licence “ firſt obtained; on the penalty of one hundred pounds ſterling, for every offence,—moiety “ to the Queen, moiety to the informer. And whereas the Queen's ſurveyor-general, or his “ deputy, is authorized to mark with a broad arrow all ſuch trees as are, or hereafter ſhall be “ fit for the royal navy, and to keep a regiſter of the ſame. None others but him or his “ deputies ſhall preſume to mark ſuch trees as aforeſaid, though growing on common lands, “ under the penalty of five pounds for every ſuch offence.”

This law, the firſt of the kind for maſts, has proved extremely uſeful for maſting the royal navy, and has alſo ſaved much money formerly ſent to Norway for that purpoſe.

By an act of Parliament of the ſaid ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xxiii. for licenſing and regulating hackney coaches and chairs, (as alſo for new duties on ſtamps, leather, ſalt, &c. and other purpoſes) eight hundred coaches, paying five ſhillings weekly, and two hundred ſedan chairs, at ten ſhillings each yearly, within London, Weſtminſter, and Southwark, and the weekly bills of mortality, are enacted to be under the management of five commiſſioners. One mile and a half for a ſhilling fare, and two miles for one ſhilling and ſix-pence, and above two miles two ſhillings, and ſo for a greater diſtance, in proportion, for coaches: and for chairs, the rule to be, that chairs ſhall have the ſame money for two-thirds of thoſe diſtances. By the tenth of Queen Anne, one hundred more chairs were added: then in all to be three hundred. The ſaid duties to commence from Midſummer 1715, and to continue from thence for thirty-two years. For raiſing of two millions by a lottery. “ And whereas the proprietors “ and inhabitants of the iſlands of Nevis and St. Chriſtopher's in America, did ſuſtain very “ great loſſes by a late invaſion of the French,—and it became neceſſary to give ſome encouragement to the ſufferers, for reſettling their plantations, the ſum therefore of one “ hundred and three thouſand and three pounds, eleven ſhillings and four-pence, ſhall be “ diſtributed amongſt ſuch proprietors only as have reſettled or ſhall reſettle in thoſe two “ iſlands, in proportion to their loſſes, by debentures to be iſſued by the commiſſioners for “ trade and plantations, at ſix per cent. intereſt.” The French had committed cruel ravages and depredations on thoſe iſlands; and it appears by an act of the tenth of Queen Anne, cap. xxxiv. that thoſe debentures, ſo made out, amounted to one third part of the whole loſs of

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1711 the ſufferers. Moreover, by an act of the fifth year of George the Firſt, for relief of ſuch ſufferers in thoſe two iſlands as had reſettled in either of them; the diſtribution of the above-named ſum is further regulated; and by one of the eighth of that King, their principal ſum unpaid, and the large arrears of intereſt thereon, joined together, has an intereſt of three per cent. ſettled thereon.

By another act of Parliament of the ſaid ninth year of Queen Anne, cap. xxiv. for relief of the creditors and proprietors of the company of Mine-adventurers of England, &c. It appears, "that the ſaid company had (through the great expence of working their mines, &c.) contracted ſo great a debt as to be altogether unable to pay the ſame; whereby, and by the diſputes ariſen amongſt their members, and between the company and their creditors, the working of their mines was almoſt totally interrupted: and whereas their mines are ſo valuable, that, were they eſtabliſhed under good management, great profit would accrue to the public;—it was therefore enacted, that all grants, contracts, bargains, &c. to any perſons by that company, ſince they firſt ſtopped payment, in the year 1707, of their bills or bonds, be hereby declared void;—and that all new ſhares in their ſtock, above the ſix thouſand and twelve allowed by their charter, be alſo made null and void, and the proprietors of them to be only deemed creditors of the company for the value thereof. The money advanced on the call made in the year 1708, to be allowed in the preſent call, and the ſurplus to be turned into ſtock. All bargains for ore or lead, &c. ſince that company ſtopped payment, ſhall remain good. The creditors of the company are hereby made members of and partners with the company's ſix thouſand and twelve ſhares. A deputy-governor and twelve directors to be annually elected for managing the company's affairs. Shares to be transferable. After the death of the Duke of Leeds, the preſent governor for life, a governor to be annually elected agreeable to the charter. And no member ſhall be elected governor above one year in four. The company may call in forty ſhillings per ſhare, for carrying on the buſineſs of the mines."

This ſtatute was made in conſequence of the union between the creditors of this company and the proprietors of the ſhares, agreed at a general meeting, which, however, was not ſufficient to keep this ill-conducted company from ſinking: although freſh propoſals were afterwards publiſhed for further payments on each ſhare, in order to carry on the mines with vigour and ſpirit. To ſay all, in one word, Sir Humphry Mackworth and his aſſociates carried their artifices to the very utmoſt; and inſtead of hurting the party opponents, drew in all the zealous of the party diſaffected to the eſtabliſhed conſtitution, to the undoing of many innocent perſons and families.

The cities of London and Weſtminſter and parts adjacent being principally ſupplied with coals, by ſea, from the counties of Durham and Northumberland, and the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne: "and in conſideration that the having them cheap tends greatly to the improvement of the manufactures, and to the increaſe of the commerce and navigation of the kingdom, by breeding many thouſands of ſkilful mariners," (ſays the preamble to an act of Parliament, of the ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xxviii. to diſſolve the preſent and prevent the future combination of coal-owners, lighter-men, maſters of ſhips, and others, to advance the price of coals, in prejudice of the navigation, trade, and manufactures of this kingdom, and for the further encouragement of the coal trade,) "for the relief of the poor and the better advancing the duties on coals,—it is neceſſary the ſame ſhould not be monopolized." Wherefore it was enacted, "that all contracts between coal-owners, lightermen, fitters, maſters

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"Fitters, or other perſons vending or delivering coals, ſhall give ample ſigned certificates "to every ſhip maſter, every voyage, containing the day and year of ſuch loading, the "maſter's and ſhip's name, and the exact quantity of coals, with the uſual names of the "ſeveral collieries out of which the coals were wrought or gotten, and the price paid by the "maſter for each ſort of coals that ſuch fitter hath ſold and loaded on board ſuch ſhip. Such "certificate, on the ſhip's arrival at London, ſhall be regiſtered at the Cocquet-office appointed by the Lord Mayor, or at the Cuſtom-houſe of any other port. And the refuſing to "give ſuch certificate, or the giving a falſe one, as alſo the not regiſtering ſuch certificate, in "forty-eight hours after the ſhip's arrival at London, or other port, by the ſhip-maſter; or "the perſon keeping the regiſter, neglecting twenty-four hours to make ſuch regiſter, or "their making a falſe entry thereof; or, laſtly, his refuſing to ſhew ſuch entry: in each of "thoſe caſes, they ſhall forfeit ten pounds. Lightermen, ſhip maſters, crimps, or coal-"factors, receiving ſalaries or gratuities from coal owners, either by the year or chaldron, "for contracting, buying, vending, or diſpoſing of any particular ſort of coals, in preference to other ſorts,—or for the loading of any ſhip,—or for the diſpoſal of the coals from "any ſuch ſhip before other ſhips,—or ſhall knowingly ſell one ſort of coals for and as a ſort "which they really are not: for every ſuch offence they ſhall forfeit fifty pounds. Offenders "diſcovering within three months the coal-owners, &c. concerned in ſuch offences, ſhall be "indemnified and receive the reward due to any other diſcoverer.

"Any number of ſhips, above fifty, remaining laden in the port of Newcaſtle or other "port, bound for London, above ſeven days, unleſs detained by contrary winds, or want of "repairs or convoys, or ſome other unavoidable cauſe, every maſter of ſuch ſhip ſhall forfeit "fifty pounds. Crimps, huſbands, and coal-agents, vending coals to his own agents, partners, or ſervants, &c. in truſt for his or their own benefit, ſhall forfeit fifty pounds. This "act to be in force only for three years, and to the end of the next ſeſſion of Parliament."

From the judicious Mr. Wood's Survey of Trade, we learn, that, upon a medium of four years, viz. from 1707 to 1710, both included, England's exports of merchandize to foreign parts exceeded her imports two millions three hundred and eighty-nine thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy-two pounds, or, in other words, England annually gained ſo much by her foreign commerce.

In Dr. D'Avenant's report this year to the commiſſioners of public accounts, the proportion of the amount of the cuſtoms received at the port of London, to the amount of the cuſtoms of all the out-ports, was as one million two hundred and ſixty-eight thouſand and ninety-five pounds to three hundred and forty-ſix thouſand and eighty-one pounds, which is conſiderably above three and a half to one.

The new Britiſh miniſtry had laid a plan, in the Spring of the year 1711, by the ſolicitation of General Nicholſon, (who came home to England purpoſely on that deſign) for the attack

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1711 attack of Placentia in Newfoundland, and (which was of ſtill more importance) for the conqueſt of Quebec and the reſt of Canada, from France. Troops were early enough brought over from Flanders to Portſmouth, and in April 1711 a powerful armament ſailed from Portſmouth, and in May from Plymouth; the fleet of twelve ſhips of war and fifty tranſports, commanded by Sir Hovenden Walker, and the ſix thouſand land forces by Brigadier Hill. At Boſton in New England they were detained too long, viz. till the thirtieth of July, in order to ſupply themſelves with proviſions, &c. which, it was ſaid, they ought, for diſpatch, to have carried with them from England; ſo that they ſailed into the river St. Lawrence conſiderably too late in the year; whilſt General Nicholſon, with two thouſand provincials and two thouſand Palatines and Indians, proceeded, over land, to Albany. When they had got a little way up that dangerous river of St. Lawrence, they met with very tempeſtuous weather, and being driven among rocks and ſmall iſlands, it was not without the greateſt hazard that the ſhips of war eſcaped being loſt; but eight tranſports were caſt away, with the loſs of about eight hundred men, officers, ſoldiers, and ſailors; and many of the other ſhips were miſerably ſhattered: wherefore it was determined to return to England, which they accordingly did in October, the ſame year, without having made any attempt on the French at Placentia. This unſucceſsful attempt was the firſt and only warlike one undertaken by that miniſtry, which diſappointment was no ſmall mortification to them, as it had coſt the public a great ſum of money. It was the third unſucceſsful undertaking againſt Canada, but the firſt directly from Great Britain. Poſſibly our people at home and the Britiſh colonies in North America might have been ſomewhat influenced, and formed their hope of ſucceſs from what the French Baron Lahontan ſays, in his Deſcription of Canada, in the year 1703, viz. that there is a general opinion in Canada, that their colony will ſooner or later be conquered by the Engliſh. This, however, was an ill-conducted enterprize.

The Engliſh African Company now petitioned the Houſe of Commons for leave to bring in a bill for the confirmation of their excluſive charter. But the petitions from private traders, as well as from the Britiſh American colonies, for laying that trade quite open, effectually fruſtrated the company's petition. Yet nothing further was done, at this time, in relation to the African trade, except that the Houſe of Commons addreſſed the Queen to direct care to be taken of the forts, &c. on the Guinea coaſt, until further proviſion ſhall be made.

The new Prime Miniſter of Great Britain, the Earl of Oxford, now created Lord Treaſurer, upon his acceſſion to power, ſaw it to be his intereſt to put an end to the war with France and Spain, as ſoon as poſſible; and was now actually treating of a ſeparate peace with thoſe powers; though at the expence of our then allies and of our national honour and true intereſt. Yet, as he could not prudently avoid the carrying it on, at leaſt for the year 1711, and until he could more firmly fix himſelf in power, he judged it principally neceſſary to find means to quiet the minds of the monied people by reſtoring the public credit, which was at this time greatly affected by the late change in the miniſtry, and had occaſioned the Bank of England to be much run upon: and as the bulk of the monied men, and of the proprietors of the national funds, were averſe to his new meaſures, it was his great aim to bring them into good humour.

There happened at this time to be a very large arrear of navy, victualling, and tranſport debentures, and alſo of army debentures, &c. without any eſtabliſhed fund for putting them into a regular courſe of being diſcharged: for this reaſon principally, as well as partly on account of this change in the miniſtry, they were at a large diſcount at market, whereby the

diſtruſt

A.D. 1711 diſtruſt which the proprietors had before generally entertained of the new miniſtry was greatly heightened: if therefore a fund could be eſtabliſhed for the regular payment of the intereſt of this large arrear, and at the ſame time plauſible means could be deviſed to give the creditors the hope of further advantages by a new and alluring commerce, he prudently thought he ſhould obtain his principal end. We muſt here previouſly obſerve, that ſome of our adventurers to Spaniſh America, in Queen Elizabeth's time, as well as the late Buccaneers, had raiſed in the minds of the people the higheſt ideas of the advantages of a trade thither; which ideas were further heightened by obſerving the vaſt riches which France had brought home from thence, ſince the Duke of Anjou had ruled in Spain: moreover, it was remembered, that ſo early as the twenty-firſt year of King James the Firſt, a company or aſſociation was propoſed in the Houſe of Commons for a Spaniſh Weſt India trade:—in the reign of King William alſo, as well as in the former part of the preſent reign, during the Lord Godolphin's miniſtry, there had been much diſcourſe of an expedition to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, in conjunction with the Dutch, in order there to make ſome permanent ſettlement for commerce. There were alſo certain ſchemes handed about and publiſhed for making ſettlements (by force) in the South Seas of America, in contemplation of the vaſt plenty of gold, ſilver, and rich drugs, &c. there to be found, and of the immenſe profit made by the Spaniards on the European merchandize ſent thither; which conſiderations, joined to the feebleneſs of the Spaniſh government in thoſe parts, were plauſible allurements for a nation of ſo enterprizing and commercial a genius as ours, to ſtrive for ſharing ſuch advantages at firſt hand. Moreover, to make the new miniſtry's ſeparate negociations with the enemy to be better reliſhed, it was induſtriouſly given out by their emiſſaries, that Great Britain was to have a conceſſion from Spain of four ports in the South Seas, on the coaſts of Peru and Chili, for the ſecurity of her commerce there. But, without enlarging further on ſuch romantic ſchemes, we ſhall now obſerve, that the new prime miniſter procured an act of Parliament of the ninth year of Queen Anne, for making good deficiencies, and ſatisfying the public debts: for erecting a corporation to carry on a trade to the South Seas; for the encouragement of the fiſhery: and for liberty to trade in unwrought iron with the ſubjects of Spain: and to repeal the acts for regiſtering of ſeamen.

This act firſt ſtates the deficiencies and debts unprovided for, viz. the navy debt, office of ordnance debt, tranſport debt, army debentures, deficient tallies and orders on coals, ſubſidies to the Elector of Hanover and Duke of Zell: with the intereſt on ſuch of all theſe as carried any intereſt, and alſo monies advanced on ſeveral duties on goods imported, for the ſervice of the year 1710; and five hundred thouſand pounds to be raiſed for the ſervice of the year 1711:

	£.	s.	d.
The total of all which amounted to — — —	9,471,325	0	0
The intereſt whereof, at ſix per cent. was — —	568,279	10	0

For the payment whereof this act makes perpetual the duties on wines, vinegar, tobacco, Eaſt India goods, wrought ſilks, whale-fins, and ſeveral other duties which were appropriated for certain years to come for other purpoſes, and in the mean time the deficiency of this yearly fund was to be made good by the treaſurer of the navy. The ſurplus, if any, to go towards paying off the above named capital, hereby made redeemable on one year's notice after Chriſtmas 1716. The ſaid yearly fund to be payable weekly, and to commence from Chriſtmas 1711.

A. D. 1711 I. “ And to the intent, that the trade to the South Seas may be carried on for the honour and increaſe of the wealth and riches of this realm: her Majeſty is hereby impowered to incorporate all the proprietors of the ſaid debts;—(in the uſual ſtile and form)—This act allows the company eight thouſand pounds per annum for charges of management: and, for the better ſecuring the privileges of the Bank of England, this new company ſhall not borrow money on their bills or notes, on demand, nor at any leſs time than ſix months: neither ſhall they diſcount bills of exchange, nor any other bills or notes whatſoever; nor ſhall keep any books or caſh for any perſons or corporations, excepting their own alone.

II. “ And whereas it is of the greateſt conſequence to the honour and welfare of this kingdom, and for the increaſe of the ſtrength and riches thereof, and for the vending the product and manufacture, goods and merchandize of, or brought into, this kingdom, and the employment of the poor; that a trade ſhould be carried on to the South Seas and other parts in America, herein after mentioned, which cannot ſo ſecurely and ſucceſsfully be begun and carried on as by a corporation with a joint-ſtock, excluſive of all others. For the better encouragement of the members of the ſaid intended company; be it enacted,

III. “ That this company ſhall, from the firſt of Auguſt 1711, be veſted for ever in the ſole trade ano traffic, unto and from all the kingdoms, lands, iſlands, cities, towns, ports, creeks, and places in America, on the eaſt ſide thereof, from the river of Aranoca to the ſouthermoſt part of the Terra del Fuego; and on the weſt ſide thereof, from the ſaid ſouthermoſt part of the ſaid Terra del Fuego, through the South Seas, to the northermoſt part of America; and into, unto, and from all countries, &c. within the ſaid limits, which are reputed to belong to the crown of Spain, or which ſhall hereafter be found out or diſcovered within the ſaid limits, not exceeding three hundred leagues from the continent of America, between the ſouthermoſt part of Terra del Fuego, and the northermoſt part of America, on the weſt ſide thereof, (except the kingdom of Braſil, and ſuch other places on the ſaid eaſt ſide of America, as are now in the actual poſſeſſion of the crown of Portugal, and the country of Surinam in the poſſeſſion of the States General of the United Provinces). It not being intended, that the ſole trade to any part of the eaſt ſide of America, now in the actual poſſeſſion of the crown of Portugal or the States General ſhall be granted by this act: but it ſhall be and remain lawful for all her Majeſty's ſubjects to trade and traffic thither,—as fully and freely, in all reſpects, as they might or could do if this act had not been made.

IV. “ None ſhall trade within thoſe limits, but the company, their agents, and factors.

V. “ The Queen may, in her intended charter of incorporation, impower the ſaid company to make laws for the good government of their trade, &c. and to inflict reaſonable penalties, by impriſonments and mulcts for any breach thereof.

VI. “ Forfeiture of ſhips and merchandize and double their value, for any but the company, or thoſe licenſed by the company, trading to, or frequenting any part of their beforenamed limits; one-fourth to the crown; one-fourth to the informer; and one-half to the company.

VII. “ The company to be the ſole owners and proprietors of all iſlands, forts, towns, and places, which they ſhall hereafter diſcover within their ſaid limits; to hold the ſame of the crown, in free and common ſoccage by fealty, on the annual rent of an ounce of gold, if demanded.

VIII. “ All prizes of ſhips and merchandize, taken by the company, ſhall be their ſole property: for which end they may ſeize by force of arms the perſons (with their ſhips and goods) trading within their limits.

IX. “ The

A. D. 1711 IX. " The company's bonds ſhall charge as well as their annual fund, as their other ſtock, " effects, and eſtate; and ſhall be aſſignable by indorſement. And it ſhall be felony to counterfeit their common ſeal or bonds, or to alter or utter the ſame knowingly.

X. " The company not to ſail into any of the before-named limits beyond the Terra del " Fuego, except only through the Streights of Magellan, or elſe round the ſaid Terra del " Fuego; nor ſhall ſail from thence into any part of the Eaſt Indies; neither ſhall they re- " turn to Great Britain or to any other part of Europe, Aſia, Africa, or America, by any " other way except through the ſaid Streights of Magellan, or by Terra del Feugo aforeſaid: " neither ſhall they trade in the goods of India, Perſia, or China, nor in any other commo- " dities of the countries within the limits of the Eaſt India Company. Nor ſhall this new " company's ſhips ſail further weſt from the ſhores of Chili, Peru, Mexico, California, or " any other ſhores contained between Terra del Fuego and the northermoſt part of America, " than three hundred leagues; under forfeiture of ſhips, merchandize, and double the value: " one-third to the crown, and two-thirds to the Eaſt India Company.

" XI. " And foraſmuch as nothing can more conduce to the increaſe of the ſtrength and " riches of this kingdom, and the breeding of able ſeamen,—than the preſerving and enlarg- " ing of the fiſhery;—wherefore the Queen may, in her charter to this company, direct a " ſtock of twenty ſhillings upon every hundred pounds of the capital ſtock of the company, " to be kept apart, and always employed for carrying on, improving, and enlarging the fiſhery " of this realm, or any other fiſhery; ſo as none other of the Queen's ſubjects be excluded " the fiſhing trade. And ſo as no calls of money for the fiſhery, or for any other parts of " the company's trade, be made but by order of a general court, on a fortnight's notice.

XII. " Neither the governors nor directors of this company ſhall be capable of being ſuch " in the Bank nor in the Eaſt India Company, at the ſame time."

This is the ſubſtance of this famous act, which was then, and is ſtill generally called the Earl of Oxford's maſter-piece; although it be nevertheleſs extremely plain, that the outline of his ſcheme was borrowed from the memorable act of the eighth and ninth of King William, cap. xix. for doubling the capital of the Bank of England, in the year 1697; the trade to the South Seas and that of the fiſhery, being the only new thoughts, by way of douceur.

The royal charter was dated the eighth of September 1711, incorporating the ſubſcribers of thoſe debts by the name of The Governor and Company of Merchants of Great Britain trading to the South Seas and other parts of America, and for encouraging the fiſhery. It recites the before-named act of Parliament, and grants that the company ſhall have a court of directors, and directs the manner of their proceedings in that court, and of their general courts, their manner of elections, qualification of the electors and elected, &c. which are unneceſſary to be particularly recited in this place. That defaulters in not paying in of calls, and all other debtors to the company, ſhall not be permitted to transfer their ſtock, nor to receive their dividends, without the conſent of the court of directors. That the company may appoint courts of Judicature in their forts, factories, and ſettlements, for determining of cauſes mercantile and maritime, with an appeal to the Queen and Council:—may raiſe a military force for the defence of their forts and ſettlements, as well as for acquiring of others within their limits. And by an act of Parliament of the tenth of Queen Anne, in the year 1712, all the powers, privileges of commerce, &c. were made perpetual to the company, notwithſtanding any redemption of their fund.

Upon the eſtabliſhment of this company, with a proper fund, their ſtock advanced very conſiderably in price, and ſo continued gradually to riſe in price, by this ſo called maſter-piece of the

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1711 the Lord Treaſurer. Whereupon, the company's general court, in conſequence of the Queen's aſſurances of aſſiſting the company with a ſufficient force for eſtabliſhing their trade to the South Seas; reſolved to carry on their ſaid trade, with a cargo to be prepared for the year 1712, of two hundred thouſand pounds value.

Accordingly, in July 1712, two hundred thouſand pounds was iſſued in bonds, under the company's common ſeal. Yet, although a ceſſation of arms was, in this ſame year, agreed on with France and Spain, the company did not however judge matters ripe enough for their ſending out of any ſhips this year; the peace with France not being actually ſigned till the thirty-firſt of March 1713, nor with Spain till the ſecond of July following.

In November 1711, the prices of the public ſtocks were as follows, viz.

Engliſh Eaſt India ſtock	£.124½
Bank ſtock	111¼
South Sea ſtock	77½
Royal African ſtock	4½

1712 The late total change of the Britiſh miniſtry had by this time made new and ſtrange alterations of things formerly in good eſteem. Thus, for one inſtance, the general naturalization of foreign Proteſtants, which had been enacted not quite three years before, and by that act was declared to be a likely means of advancing the wealth and ſtrength of a nation, and which had been attempted to be repealed in the preceding year; but the bill was rejected by the Houſe of Peers; is now, by an act of the tenth of Queen Anne, totally repealed; and the grounds for that repeal are therein aſſigned to be, "becauſe divers miſchiefs and inconveniencies have been found by experience to follow from the ſame, to the diſcouragement of the natural-born ſubjects of this kingdom, and to the detriment of the trade and wealth thereof."

That great number of ſober and induſtrious ſubjects are the chief ſtrength and wealth of a nation, will ſcarcely be controverted by any who underſtand the true and ſolid intereſts of nations and communities. The inſtance of the King of Pruſſia's inviting the French Proteſtant Refugees to ſettle in his dominions, as quoted in the former ſtatute, and their general admiſſion into the United Provinces, in both which countries they have done immenſe benefit to their protectors, have ſtrongly verified the above poſition in the firſt-named ſtatute.

In Holland, ſays Dr. D'Avenant, in the ſecond part of his Diſcourſes on the public Revenues and Trade of England, London, 1698, p. 117. "There is reaſon to think, that the national ſtock of that ſtate is increaſed near eight millions ſince the war: in regard that by the wiſdom of their conſtitution they invite daily to them, and increaſe in number of inhabitants."

To what difficulties, and even diſtreſſes, have we very lately been reduced, from a real want of men for our fleets and armies: yet it ſtill appears, from the diſpoſition of even great numbers of perſons of knowledge and abilities in our own days, that the old prejudices (if we may be allowed to call them ſo) againſt a general naturalization are not as yet eaſily to be overcome.

A ſpirit of gaming at this time in ſmaller private and unlawful lotteries, under the denomination of ſales of gloves, fans, cards, plate, &c. alſo offices for inſurances on marriages, births, chriſtenings, ſervices, &c. and daily advertiſements thereof were publiſhed in the newſpapers; and for the improvement of ſmall ſums of money. A clauſe therefore was inſerted in an act of the tenth year of Queen Anne, entitled, An Act for laying additional Duties on Hides, Skins, &c. whereby a penalty of five hundred pounds was enacted on any perſons ſetting up ſuch offices, lotteries, &c.

A. D. 1712 The African Company's affairs being much in diſorder, in this ſame year 1712, an act of the tenth of Queen Anne, "for making effectual ſuch agreement as ſhall be made between "the Royal African Company of England and their creditors."

"For the benefit of their ſaid creditors, it was enacted, that two-thirds or more of them, "in number and value, may, on or before the twentieth of December, 1712, under hand and "ſeal, conſent to allow to that company a ſpace of time for payment of their debts, or to "make any other agreements with that company touching their ſaid debts: which agreements "(by two-thirds, &c. as above) ſhall bind and conclude all the reſt of thoſe creditors.— "Saving always the Queen's duties." On this occaſion, there were ſeveral reſolutions of the Houſe of Commons, which in part teſtify the great importance of this trade, both for ſupplying our ſugar and other American colonies: as,

Firſt, That this trade ought to be free for all the King's ſubjects, in a regulated company.

Secondly, That forts and ſettlements on that coaſt are neceſſary.

Thirdly, Which forts ſhould be maintained out of the trade.

Fourthly, That contracts and alliances are neceſſary to be maintained with the natives.

Fifthly, That the plantations ſhould be ſupplied with a ſufficient quantity of negroes at reaſonable rates.

Sixthly, That a conſiderable ſtock is neceſſary for carrying on of that trade.

Seventhly, That it is neceſſary that an exportation, of at leaſt one hundred thouſand pounds in merchandize, be annually made from Great Britain thither.

The firſt ſix of thoſe reſolutions were confirmed, but the ſeventh was rejected; and a bill was thereupon ordered into the Houſe; but it did not ſucceed.

In this tenth year of Queen Anne, an act of Parliament, cap. xxviii. paſſed, "for continuing the trade and corporation capacity of the United Eaſt India Company, although "their fund ſhould be redeemed." It having been enacted by the ſtatute of the ſixth of Queen Anne, "that upon payment to the company of the three million two hundred thou- "ſand pounds due by the public, upon three years notice after Lady-day 1726,—the benefit "of their trade ſhall ceaſe and determine. Yet, upon the ſaid company's humble petition, "and to the intent that the company and their ſucceſſors may be the better encouraged to "proceed in their trade, and to make ſuch laſting ſettlements for the ſupport and maintenance "thereof for the benefit of the Britiſh nation:" It was now enacted, "that not only the "proviſo in the above-named ſtatute for the redemption and determination of the duties on "ſalt and ſtamps, and of five per cent. on imported Eaſt India goods, and their yearly fund, "but likewiſe of the benefit of the trade and of the corporation, is hereby repealed and made "void: and that the ſaid duties and fund ſhall continue, and the ſaid United Company, and "their ſucceſſors, ſhall have and enjoy ſuch part of their yearly ſum of one hundred and "ſixty thouſand pounds, as they ſhall hereafter be entitled to, and all the benefits of trade, "franchiſes, privileges, profits, and advantages whatever, granted to the company by former "ſtatutes and charters.—Provided, that, at any time, upon three years notice after Lady- "day 1733, and repayment of the ſaid three million two hundred thouſand pounds, and of "the ſaid yearly fund of one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds, then the ſaid duties and "fund ſhall abſolutely ceaſe and determine."

We muſt here remark, that although the title of this ſtatute may ſeem to apply a perpetuity in their excluſive trade, even although their fund ſhould be redeemed, (as they themſelves alleged in the year 1730, when petitioned againſt to the Parliament, as will be ſeen) yet the

1712 body or enacting clauſes of this act does not clearly imply ſo much: but, on the contrary, declares, "that the company ſhall be ſubject, nevertheleſs, to the reſtrictions, covenants, "and agreements, of former acts and charters now in force; and alſo ſubject to the general "proviſoes or conditions of redemption above-named."

But in the very next ſtatute, except one, of this ſame ſeſſion of Parliament, the enacting clauſe in behalf of the South Sea Company is extremely and unexceptionably clear, viz. "An "act for continuing the trade to the South Seas, granted by an act of the laſt ſeſſion of Par-"liament; although the capital ſtock of the ſaid corporation ſhould be redeemed.

Which, after reciting that firſt act for the eſtabliſhment of the company, further adds, "And whereas ſome doubts may ariſe concerning the power of redemption intended by the "ſaid act and charter, which might tend to diſcourage the ſaid company in expending of "ſuch large ſums of money as are neceſſary for new ſettlements, and the ſettling of a trade "there, for the future benefit of Great Britain: for explanation whereof, be it enacted,— "that at any time, upon one year's notice after Chriſtmas 1716, upon repayment of the "principal ſum, (due to the company) then all the impoſitions and duties ſhall and may be "diſpoſed of by Parliament, and the yearly fund ſhall ceaſe and determine. But the ſaid "corporation by the name aforeſaid, after ſuch redemption of the ſaid yearly fund, ſhall con-"tinue for ever, and have perpetual ſucceſſion; and ſhall hold and enjoy all forts, factories, "and acquiſitions, that they ſhall erect within the limits preſcribed,—and ſhall have the ſole "benefit of trade in and to the South Seas, and ſuch other power of trade in the fiſhery as by "the ſaid act is directed, and all other benefits, powers, privileges, and advantages, as if "no ſuch redemption were had or made."

In a repreſentation, in this ſame tenth year of Queen Anne, of the Eaſt India Company to the Houſe of Commons, againſt the laying additional duties on callicoes, muſlins, cottons, tea, coffee, and drugs, that company alleged, "that they did annually export to the Eaſt "Indies about one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds value in woollen goods, and other "Engliſh product."

In this ſame year, the French King granted a patent to the Sieur Anthony Crozat, his Secretary, for fifteen years, of the whole commerce of "all the King's lands in North Ame-"rica, lying between New France on the north, Carolina on the eaſt, and New Mexico on "the weſt, down to the Gulph of Florida; by the name of Louiſiana, ſince named the pro-"vince of Miſſiſſippi." See a quarto treatiſe, printed at Paris, in the year 1720, entitled, *Recueil des Edits, Declarations, Lettres-Patents, Arrets, et autres Pieces concernant la Compagnie des Indes*, &c. *i. e.* A Collection of Edicts, Declarations, Letters-Patent, Arrets, and other Pieces, relating to the (French) India Company, &c. In the preamble to this famous patent the French King ſays, "that having, in the year 1683, given orders to the Sieur de "la Salle to make diſcovery of the ſaid country above deſcribed, he ſucceeded ſo well that it "was now beyond doubt, that a communication may be practicable between the bay of "Mexico and New France, by certain vaſt rivers. This obliged us," continues Louis, "immediately on the peace of Ryſwich to ſend thither a colony and garriſon, which has "maintained the poſſeſſion we took, in the ſaid year 1683, of lands, coaſts and iſlands ſitu-"ated in the (Golfe) Bay of Mexico, between Carolina on the eaſt, and old and new "Mexico on the weſt. But, war breaking out again in Europe, we have not been able till "now to render that colony ſo advantageous as we hoped for." The bounds now granted to Crozat were, "from the mouth of the river Miſſiſſippi, in the bay of Mexico, to the lake

A. D. 1712 Illinois northward; and from New Mexico on the weſt, to the lands of the Engliſh of Carolina eaſtward; with all rivers, ports, creeks, iſles, &c. by the name of Louiſiana. "Which "province, however, ſhall depend on the general government of New France, and be deemed a part thereof. The ſaid Sieur Crozat to enjoy the ſole trade of all exportations to and "importations from this province for fifteen years; as alſo all mines, minerals, &c." paying a fifth of theſe to the King, "and an immunity during that term from cuſtom outward and "homeward, &c."

This is the whole of the French King's title to the poſſeſſion of the vaſt country, which, by virtue of his plenary power, he was pleaſed to call his own. Under the year 1698, we have related his firſt attempting a ſettlement there; but as it was only at the mouth of the river Miſſiſſippi, it properly and ſolely belonged to Spain to oppoſe it, as being within the limits of Florida: from whence France, on any rupture with Spain, may greatly annoy the Spaniſh dominions in both old and new Mexico, &c. But when, in the above grant to Crozat, Louis clearly proclaimed his plan of joining Louiſiana to New France, and thereby hemming in the Engliſh continent colonies between the Miſſiſſippi river and the ſea eaſtward; what name ſhall we give to our Engliſh counſellors at ſuch a time, who ſupinely (if not treacherouſly) ſuffered ſuch a grant to paſs unoppoſed, when (as related in the preceding century) both the charters of our King Charles the Second, to the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, granted to them all the lands directly weſt to the South Seas, which conſequently included the country on both ſides the river Miſſiſſippi: in our introduction, we have done juſtice to Dr. D'Avenant's judicious and prophetical warning, given in the very year 1698, when France firſt began a ſettlement at the mouth of the Miſſiſſippi; and as he was a perſon of great abilities, and at this time wholly devoted to the then miniſtry, there is no doubt to be made of their being perfectly acquainted with his prediction; of which therefore we can now only lament the conſequences.

We may, under this year obſerve, that Mr. Eraſmus Philips's State of the Nation, in reſpect to her Commerce, Debts, and Money, ſecond edition, p. 25, makes "the balance "of England's trade, one year with another, to have been in our favour, on an average or "medium, two million eight hundred and eighty-one thouſand three hundred and fifty-ſeven "pounds from 1702 to 1712. So that, ſays he, allowing a great abatement for falſe entries, "here is room enough for the greateſt ſceptic to admit of a large balance, over and above the "neceſſary expences of the war."

Previous to and before we enter upon the formal concluſion of the commercial part of the treaty of Utrecht, we ſhall briefly exhibit the ſubſtance of the new treaty, concluded on the twenty-ninth of January 1713, of mutual guarantee for the Proteſtant ſucceſſion to the crown of Great Britain, and for the barrier of the States General of the United Netherlands. The ſtipulation, in caſe either ſhould be attacked, was, on the part of Great Britain, ten thouſand foot to the aſſiſtance of the States, and by the States ſix thouſand foot to the aſſiſtance of Great Britain; alſo twenty ſhips of war by either party. And in caſe of ſudden and imminent danger, each party ſhall be obliged, (being required by the other) to augment their ſuccours, and to declare war againſt the aggreſſor; and even to join their forces by land and ſea to thoſe of the party attacked. This treaty repealed one of the ſame kind or title, made in the year 1709.

We have the beſt authority for our obſerving, that the copper manufacture of England was, by this time, brought to the greateſt degree of perfection; it being expreſsly ſo declared in a

1712 ſtatute of the twelfth of Queen Anne, for making perpetual the act made in the thirteenth and fourteenth years of the reign of King Charles the Second, entitled, An Act for the better Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom, &c. By which firſt-named act an expired clauſe of an act of the ninth and tenth of King William, enacting, "that any of his Majeſty's ſubjects may export from England all ſuch copper bars as hath or ſhall be imported from foreign parts; and, upon exportation, ſhall draw back all duties, or vacate the ſecurities, ſaving the half of the old ſubſidy, as is uſual in other commodities;" was now revived, in the words following, viz.

"Which clauſe being expired, and for as much as the copper manufacture of this kingdom is brought to ſuch perfection that there is more made than can be expended here, and in the plantations; be it therefore enacted, &c.—Provided nevertheleſs, that no drawback be allowed on the exportation of any copper, but ſuch as ſhall be imported from the Eaſt Indies and the coaſt of Barbary only."

1713 We are now come to a remarkable epocha of commercial hiſtory: for, on the eleventh of April, new ſtile, in the year 1713, Queen Anne's plenipotentiaries at Utrecht ſigned her treaty of peace, and alſo, at the ſame time, a treaty of navigation and commerce with France; and ratified the ſame in four weeks after. Much has been written and publiſhed, with too much reaſon, againſt the conditions of this peace, which that Queen's new miniſters, for their own ſafety, were determined to conclude.

But as commercial matters alone, and ſuch points as are nearly connected therewith, are our proper province, we ſhall content ourſelves with briefly remarking, on what is properly the treaty of peace:

Firſt, That although the French King yielded to the Queen of Great Britain, to be poſſeſſed by her in full right for ever, the Bay and Streights of Hudſon, and all parts thereof, and within the ſame, then poſſeſſed by France; yet the leaving the boundaries between Hudſon's Bay and the north parts of Canada, belonging to France, to be determined by commiſſaries within a year, was, in effect, the ſame thing as giving up the point altogether. It being well known to all Europe, that France never permits her commiſſaries to determine matters referred to ſuch, unleſs it can be done with great advantage to her. Thoſe boundaries therefore have never yet been ſettled, although both Britiſh and French ſubjects are by that article expreſsly debarred from paſſing over the ſame, or thereby to go to each other by ſea or land. Thoſe commiſſaries were likewiſe to ſettle the boundaries between the other Britiſh and French colonies on that continent; which likewiſe was never done: neither can ever ſuch limits be effectually ſettled with a nation whoſe glory is chicanery and perfidy, any other way but ſword in hand.

Commiſſaries were alſo to ſettle, according to the rule of juſtice, the ſatisfaction to be given to the Engliſh Hudſon's Bay Company for the damage done to their ſettlements, ſhips, perſons, and goods, by the hoſtile incurſions and depredations of the French, in time of peace. And this too was never effectually done.

Secondly, St. Chriſtopher's Iſle was the eaſier yielded to the Queen, as the French had before been expelled thence. But,

Thirdly, Although all Nova Scotia and Acadie, with its ancient boundaries, were yielded to Queen Anne for ever; as alſo the city of Port Royal, (now called Annapolis Royal) and the ſubjects of France were thereby excluded from all kind of fiſhing in the ſeas, bays, &c. on the coaſts of Nova Scotia; yet thoſe ancient boundaries were never yet juſtly aſcertained

A. D. 1713 by France; and the ambiguous term ancient boundaries was purpoſely contrived by France, for her future deſigns; and, inſtead of the true limits of Nova Scotia, they ſtill pretended, that only the Iſthmus called Acadie was thereby intended to be yielded up, and not what we called Nova Scotia; which is properly bounded by the ocean, and the bay and river of St. Lawrence quite up to Canada; which river we contended was the ancient boundary between Nova Scotia and New France or Canada. But,

Fourthly, The iſland of Cape Breton, which was always deemed a part of Nova Scotia, and which is better ſituated for the fiſhery than any other part of it, and for the French to interrupt our fiſhery and the communication between Newfoundland and our continent colonies, was baſely yielded up to France; as alſo all the other iſles both in the mouth of the bay and of the river of St. Lawrence, whereby the French were permitted to fortify as they ſhould judge proper.

Fifthly, Although the iſland called Newfoundland, with the adjacent leſſer iſles, and the town and fortreſs of Placentia, and whatever elſe the French poſſeſſed there, were yielded up to Britain: yet, nevertheleſs, the French were permitted to erect ſtages made of boards, and huts, neceſſary and uſual for drying of their fiſh during their fiſhing ſeaſon. The French therefore had liberty to catch fiſh, and to dry them on land at Newfoundland, at that part of the ſaid iſland ſtretching from Cape Bonaviſta to the northern point of the iſland, and from thence running down by the weſt ſide as far as Point Riche. Thus, having all the advantages of Newfoundland, (which iſland it is well known can never be made a profitable colony or plantation) without the expence of holding forts and garriſons, wiſely left to Great Britain alone.

Sixthly, The French of Canada were to give no hinderance nor moleſtation to the five nations or cantons of Iroquois Indians ſubject to the dominions of Great Britain, nor to the other natives of America who are friends to the ſame. Yet it is notorious what violence the Canadians and French have ſince committed againſt thoſe Indian nations ſubjects of the crown of Great Britain, and what arts, at other times, they have practiſed to draw them off from their allegiance.

By the ninth article France agrees to the entire demolition of all the fortifications, and of the port of Dunkirk, and all its ſluices, moles, &c. within five months; and they ſhall never be reſtored or rebuilt on any pretence whatever.

The articles of the treaty of Navigation and Commerce between Great Britain and France are forty-one in number; moſt of which being in the cuſtomary form, we ſhall paſs over: but we could not omit our animadverſions on the eighth and ninth articles, as they were ſo extraordinary in themſelves, and as they occaſioned ſo great a ſtir and uneaſineſs at that time, as to have brought the whole treaty of commerce to miſcarry then and ever ſince.

" Article VIII. That all the ſubjects of the Queen of Great Britain and of the moſt " Chriſtian King, in all countries and places ſubject to their power on each ſide, as to all " duties, impoſitions, or cuſtoms whatſoever, concerning perſons, goods, merchandize, ſhips, " freights, ſeamen, navigation and commerce, ſhall uſe and enjoy the ſame privileges, liber- " ties and immunities, at leaſt, and have the like favour in all things, as well in the courts " of juſtice, as in all ſuch things as relate either to commerce, or to any other right whatſo- " ever, which any foreign nation, the moſt favoured, has, uſes, and enjoys, or may hereafter " have, uſe, and enjoy.

1713 “ Article IX. That within the ſpace of two months after a law ſhall be made in Great Britain, whereby it ſhall be ſufficiently provided, that not more cuſtoms or duties be paid for goods and merchandize brought from France into Great Britain than what are payable for goods and merchandize, of the like nature, imported into Great Britain from any other country in Europe; and that all laws made in Great Britain, ſince the year 1664, for prohibiting the importation of any goods and merchandize coming from France, which were not prohibited before that time, be repealed: the general tariff made in France, on the eighteenth of September in the ſaid year 1664, ſhall take place there again, and the duties payable in France by the ſubjects of Great Britain for goods imported and exported, ſhall be paid according to the tenor of the tariff above-mentioned, and ſhall not exceed the rule therein ſettled, in the provinces whereof mention is there made; and in the other provinces the duty ſhall not be payable otherwiſe than according to the rule at that time preſcribed: and all prohibitions, tariffs, edicts, declarations, or decrees, made in France ſince the ſaid tariff of the year 1664, and contrary thereunto, in reſpect to the goods and merchandize of Great Britain, ſhall be repealed.

“ But whereas it is urged on the part of France, that certain merchandizes, that is to ſay, manufactures of wool, ſugar, ſalted fiſh, and the product of whales, be excepted out of the rule of the above-mentioned tariff, and that likewiſe other heads of matters belonging to this treaty remain, which, having been propoſed on the part of Great Britain, have not yet been mutually adjuſted; a ſpecification of all which is contained in a ſeparate inſtrument, ſubſcribed by the ambaſſadors extraordinary and plenipotentiaries on both ſides; it is hereby provided and agreed, that within two months from the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, commiſſaries on both ſides ſhall meet at London, to conſider of and remove the difficulties concerning the merchandizes to be excepted out of the tariff of the year 1664; and concerning the other heads which, as is above ſaid, are not yet wholly adjuſted. And, at the ſame time, the ſaid commiſſaries ſhall likewiſe endeavour (which ſeems to be very much for the intereſt of both nations) to have the methods of commerce, on one part and of the other, more thoroughly examined, and to find out and eſtabliſh juſt and beneficial means on both ſides, for removing the difficulties in this matter, and for regulating the duties mutually. But it is always underſtood and provided, that all and ſingular the articles of this treaty do, in the mean while, remain in their full force; and eſpecially that nothing be deemed, under any pretence whatſoever, to hinder the benefit of the general tariff of the year 1664, from being granted to the ſubjects of her Royal Majeſty of Great Britain, and the ſaid Britiſh ſubjects, from having and enjoying the ſame, without any delay or tergiverſation, within the ſpace of two months after a law is made in Great Britain as aboveſaid; in as ample manner and form as the ſubjects of any nation the moſt favoured might have and enjoy the benefit of the aforeſaid tariff; any thing to be done or diſcuſſed by the ſaid commiſſaries to the contrary in any-wiſe notwithſtanding.”

When the ſaid two articles came to be known by the merchants of Great Britain, they were received with the utmoſt ſurprize and indignation; and the clamour was loud and univerſal: ſo that it occaſioned a famous weekly paper to be publiſhed, (the joint work of a number of eminent merchants) with the title of the Britiſh Merchant, or Commerce preſerved, (ſince collected and publiſhed in three octavo volumes) in defence of our commerce with Portugal, and againſt confirming the ſaid eighth and ninth articles by law. There were alſo ſeveral ſeparate tracts publiſhed on the ſame ſide. On the other hand, thoſe in power found tools to juſtify

A. D. 1713 juſtify their raſh and wild conduct; and particularly a once famous party writer, (Daniel Defoe) who publiſhed a weekly reply to the ſaid paper named the Britiſh Merchant, and named it Mercator, or Commerce retrieved. But the firſt-named paper, having truth and facts on its ſide, clearly evinced to the world, that the complying with thoſe two articles would effectually ruin the commerce we carried on to Portugal, the very beſt branch of all our European commerce. That the ſaid eighth article did, in general terms, put France on an equal footing with Portugal, or any other of our beſt allies, in point of commerce: but that the ninth article did more directly ſtrike at the very root of our Portugal trade; as, by introducing the tariff of 1664, the wines and brandies of France would be poured in upon us, in lieu of thoſe of Portugal; although the latter country took off great quantities of our woollen, iron, linen, &c. manufactures, and thereby ſent us a large yearly balance of money in our favour, over and above all the wines, oils, and fruits, which we took from them.

On the other hand, by agreeing to theſe two pernicious articles, and to the tariff of 1664, France would probably gain annually from Great Britain conſiderably more than one million ſterling. Not only from the vaſt conſumption of their alluring wines and brandies, but of numberleſs other articles in the manufactures of ſilk, lace, linen, needlework, and paper, beſide fruits, &c. Which the able authors of the Britiſh Merchant made out thus, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
Our imports from France, upon agreeing to thoſe two articles, would annually amount to - - - - -	1,712,559	7	0
And our exports thither would not exceed - -	270,181	14	11
Annual balance againſt, or loſs to Great Britain - - -	1,442,377	12	1

Whilſt, on the other hand, the French had ſo effectually contrived the excluſion of our woollen, iron, &c. manufactures, and almoſt every other Britiſh production, that our ſhips would have had very little to do in the French ports but to lade home their commodities.

This is, in brief, the ſum of this mercantile controverſy, which when brought into Parliament, was ſo apparent that our trade to France had ever been a ruinous one, and that if, in conſequence of accepting the ſaid eighth and ninth articles, the Britiſh Parliament ſhould conſent to reduce the high duties and take off the prohibitions ſo prudently laid on French commodities, it would effectually ruin the very beſt branches of our commerce, and would thereby deprive many hundred thouſand manufacturers of their ſubſiſtence; which was alſo ſupported by petitions from many parts of the kingdom: that, although a great majority of that Houſe of Commons was in other reſpects cloſely attached to the miniſtry, the bill for agreeing to the purport of the ſaid two articles was rejected by a majority of nine voices, after the moſt eminent merchants had been heard at the bar of that houſe, to the great joy of the whole trading part of the nation, and of all other impartial people.

Bad as our miniſtry managed at this time in reſpect of commerce, we ought to do them the juſtice to acknowledge their circumſpection in regard to the two articles of our then treaty with King Philip of Spain; viz. part of article VIII.

" Neither the Catholic King, nor any of his heirs and ſucceſſors, ſhall ſell, yield, pawn,
" transfer, or by any means or under any name, alienate from them and the crown of Spain,
" to the French, or to any other nation whatſoever, any lands, dominions, or territories
" belonging to Spain in America. On the contrary, that the Spaniſh dominions there may
" be preſerved whole and entire, the Queen of Great Britain engages to endeavour to give
" aſſiſtance

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1713 " aſſiſtance to the Spaniards, that the ancient limits of their dominions in the Weſt Indies " be reſtored and ſettled as they ſtood in the reign of the Catholic King Charles II."

Article X. " That all and ſingular the ſubjects of each kingdom," *i. e.* of Great Britain and Spain, " ſhall, in all countries and places, on both ſides, have and enjoy, at leaſt, the " ſame privileges, liberties, and immunities, as to all duties, impoſitions, or cuſtoms what- " ſoever relating to perſons, goods, and merchandize, ſhips, freight, ſeamen, navigation, " and commerce; and ſhall have the like favour in all things as the ſubjects of France or of " any other foreign nation the moſt favoured, have, poſſeſs, or enjoy."

By the ſaid tenth article Spain yielded for ever to the Britiſh crown the full and entire propriety of the town, port, and caſtle of Gibraltar. " But without any territorial juriſdiction, " or any open communication by land with the country round about; whereby abuſes and " frauds may be avoided by importing any kind of goods. Yet as the communication by ſea " with the coaſt of Spain may not at all times be ſafe and open, and thereby it may happen " that the garriſon and other inhabitants may be brought to great ſtraits; and as it is the in- " tention of the Catholic King, that only fraudulent importations of goods ſhould be hinder- " ed by an inland communication; it was therefore now provided, that in ſuch caſes it may " be lawful to purchaſe, for ready money, in the neighbouring territories of Spain, provi- " ſions, &c. for the uſe of the garriſon, ſo as no merchandize be imported by Gibraltar into " Spain; otherwiſe it ſhall be confiſcated."

We may here however obſerve, that if Gibraltar had poſſeſſed a ſmall territory annexed to it on the land ſide, the Spaniards could not have ſince erected the fort on the Iſthmus, ſo near the town as to prove ſome obſtruction to ſhips from anchoring in time of war further up the Bay.

The eleventh article with Spain yields to the Britiſh crown the propriety of the iſle of Minorca, with the port and forts of Port Mahon, for ever.

But with reſpect to both Gibraltar and Minorca it was expreſsly ſtipulated, " that in caſe " it ſhall ſeem meet hereafter to the crown of Great Britain to grant, ſell, or alienate the pro- " perty of either, the preference of having the ſame ſhall always be given to the crown of " Spain before any others."

The twelfth article grants " to her Britannic Majeſty, and to the company of her ſubjects " appointed for that purpoſe," *i. e.* the South Sea Company, " (as well the ſubjects of Spain " as all others being excluded) the contract for introducing of negroes into ſeveral parts of " the dominions of his Catholic Majeſty in America, commonly called El Pacto del Aſſiento " de Negros, at the rate of four thouſand eight hundred negroes yearly, for the ſpace of " thirty years ſucceſſively, beginning from the firſt of May 1713, on the ſame conditions on " which the French company had formerly enjoyed it."

Here we originally intended to have inſerted the South Sea Company's Aſſiento contract at large: but as that contract, as well as all the company's other commerce whatever, is long ſince laid aſide, we ſhall ſpare our readers the trouble of enlarging on a ſubject not likely to be ever hereafter renewed.

It is ſaid, that the Britiſh miniſters at firſt demanded a free trade for Great Britain to Spaniſh America: but that was a mere illuſion; ſince it would have inflamed the jealouſy of all the reſt of Europe. Yet ſurely, conſidering the ſervice they had done to King Philip, they might have obtained a more favourable Aſſiento; ſince it was confeſſed, that all former Aſſientiſts had actually been loſers, although on as good terms as the preſent Aſſiento, excepting only the annual ſhip, which King Philip allowed to the South Sea Company, for the ſaid

A. D. 1713 ſaid term of thirty years, of five hundred tons burden, (Spaniſh meaſure) with which the ſaid company was to trade with Spaniſh America; but of which the Catholic King reſerved one-fourth of the gain, beſide five per cent. on the other three-fourths of the gain. Thus did our miniſters, in this reſpect at leaſt, ſuffer us and the South Sea Company to be outwitted by the Spaniſh miniſters.

It was univerſally known, that the Portugueſe Company firſt, and next the French one, were undone by their Aſſiento Contracts for ſupplying the Spaniſh Weſt Indies with negroes: and this *douceur* of an annual trading ſhip granted to our company was too much clogged with the above difficulties to prove of any certain advantage, more eſpecially conſidering how much the Court of Madrid had it in their power to ſuſpend the licence for any ſuch annual ſhip, &c. as they often practiſed, and to ſeize on the company's effects in America at pleaſure.

Part of the fifteenth article. "And whereas it is inſiſted on the part of Spain, that certain "rights of fiſhing at the iſland of Newfoundland do belong to the Guipuſcoans, or other "ſubjects of the Catholic King; her Britannic Majeſty conſents and agrees, that all ſuch "privileges as the Guipuſcoans and other people of Spain are able to make claim to by right, "ſhall be allowed and preſerved to them." This point has never yet been clearly aſcertained, nor probably never will be.

In the mean time, the Earl of Oxford, Lord High Treaſurer of Great Britain, and Governor of the South Sea Company, did, in a general court of that company, on the ſecond of June, 1713, acquaint that court, that her Majeſty had preſented the company with the before-mentioned Aſſiento Contract; and had alſo procured for them two licences from the King of Spain for two ſhips of ſix hundred tons each, to carry merchandize the firſt year to the northern ports of the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, beſide the annual ſhip of five hundred tons. Whereupon the company (fluſhed with ſuch pompous appearances) iſſued two hundred thouſand pounds more in bonds, for vigorouſly carrying on the ſaid trade. And her Majeſty lent two of her own ſhips, to be the two firſt licenſed ſhips, for carrying over the company's goods, factors, and ſervants. Neverthleſs, the Court of Directors were not a little ſurprized to find, that the Queen had reſerved to herſelf, or to her aſſigns, another quarter part of the ſaid Aſſiento; beſide her grant of ſeven and a half per cent. to Don Manuel Manaſſes Gilligan, the Spaniſh agent at her court, out of the clear profits of the annual ſhip: yet ſhe afterwards aſſigned her quarter part of the Aſſiento to the company, on condition that the company ſhould (beſide the above grant to Gilligan) aſſign twenty-one one-fourth per cent. of the clear profits of the annual ſhip to perſons whom ſhe would afterwards name, who were then ſaid to be Lord Bolingbroke, Lady Maſham, and Arthur Moore, Eſquire. Such were, at that time, the wild and ill-grounded expectations from this new trade. Yet, on better advice, the Queen gave up entirely to the company her ſaid quarter part of the ſuppoſed profits, to the no ſmall mortification of theſe and other courtiers, as was then commonly reported, and generally believed.

On the thirtieth of April 1713, the Houſe of Commons, after reading the ſeveral petitions of the ſeparate traders to the coaſt of Guinea, within the limits of the Royal African Company, once more reſolved, "That the trade to Africa ought to be free and open to all the "Queen's ſubjects, under ſuch proper regulations as ſhould ſubject that trade to duties for "maintaining its forts and ſettlements." Yet a bill for this purpoſe was ſoon after dropped in the Houſe of Peers.

A. D. 1713 In this ſame year 1713, the Czar of Muſcovy, Peter the Great, in completion of his plan for a new emporium at St. Peterſburg, firſt formed, as we have related, ten years before; removed the bulk of the commerce of Archangel thither, and therewith tranſplanted thirty thouſand people from his ancient capital city of Moſcow, obliging alſo more of his Bojars or Nobles to erect palaces therein, as he alſo did one for himſelf; now alſo making St. Peterſburg his moſt uſual reſidence, upon political conſiderations.

The immenſe importance of the ſilk manufactures of England, at this time, eminently appeared from a petition to Parliament by the Weaver's Company of London, in behalf of thoſe manufactures. They therein ſet forth, "That by the encouragement of the crown, and of " divers acts of Parliament, the ſilk manufacture is come to be above twenty times as great as " it was in the year 1664: and that all ſorts of as good black and coloured ſilks, gold and " ſilver ſtuffs and ribbons, are now made here as in France. That black ſilk for hoods and " ſcarfs, not made here above twenty-five years ago, hath amounted annually to above three " hundred thouſand pounds, for ſeveral years paſt, which before were imported from France. " Which increaſe of the ſilk manufacture hath cauſed an increaſe of our exportation of woollen goods to Turkey, Italy, &c."

This petition was purpoſely levelled againſt the before-recited eighth and ninth articles of our miniſter's commercial treaty with France, the ratification of which articles by Parliament would, inſtead of our ſaid ſilk manufacture, have introduced an inundation of French ſilks, ribbons, embroideries, &c. ſo that our Spitalfields and Canterbury looms would have ſtood ſtill, and our moſt profitable trade in woollen goods, &c. with Portugal, would have been utterly loſt.

During England's two laſt wars with France, the manufacturers of England did irreparable damage to the French, by robbing them of, and even out-doing them in, many of their very beſt manufactures, with which they had before ſupplied almoſt all the reſt of Europe. Neceſſity indeed firſt prompted our people thereto, in which they were much aſſiſted by the French Refugees. Of which ſubject we have treated more at large under the years 1685 and 1692.

By the treaty of Utrecht, between France and Portugal, the former yields up all pretenſions to the lands of Cape Nord, ſituated between the river of Amazons and that of Japoc or Vincent Pinſon. And the French King hereby declares, "That both ſides of the river Amazons, as well ſouth as north, do belong in all propriety to Portugal. And Louis hereby " deſiſts from any claim to navigation on the ſaid river Amazons, and from all right to any " other domain of his Portugueſe Majeſty, as well in America as in any other part of the " world. Neither ſhall the French of Cayenne paſs the river of Vincent Pinſon for traffic, " nor ſhall buy ſlaves in the territories of Cape Nord. Nor, on the other hand, ſhall any " Portugueſe go to trade at Cayenne." Of all which the Queen of Great Britain is hereby conſtituted guarantee. As this ſhort treaty ſhews, that France, at that time, made pretenſions to ſome part of that continent, ſo it may hereafter be uſeful to illuſtrate ſome commercial point or concern, in that part of the world.

By the treaty between France and the King of Pruſſia at Utrecht, Louis recognizes the King of Pruſſia's title and dignity as a King, and acknowledges him ſovereign Lord of the Principality of Neufchatel and Valengin, to which Louis grants the ſame commercial privileges as are enjoyed by the reſt of the Helvetic nation; and, in his grandſon's name, he confirms to him the upper quarter of Guelderland; which ceſſion, however, at firſt alarmed the Dutch

A. D. 1713 Dutch not a little, on account of their trade on the Meuſe, and their communication with Maeſtrecht, Liege, Huy, and Namur; but there was no remedy.

On the other hand, the King of Pruſſia thereby renounced all right to the Principality of Orange.

By the tenth article of Louis's treaty with the Duke of Savoy, it was ſtipulated, "That "the ordinary commerce of Italy, between France and that Duke, be managed by the way "of Suza, Savoy, and Pont de beau Voiſin and by Villa-Franca; each paying the duties "and cuſtoms on both ſides, and the French ſhips ſhall pay the ancient duty, called the Duty "of Villa Franca."

In the French King's treaty with the States General of the United Netherlands, at Utrecht, he conſents and promiſes, by the thirty-ſecond article, "That he will not claim nor accept "of any other advantage, either for himſelf or his ſubjects, in commerce and navigation, "whether in Spain or in the Spaniſh Indies, beſide that which he enjoyed during the reign "of the late King Charles the Second, or, that ſhall be likewiſe granted to every other trading nation."

By their proper treaty of commerce, navigation and marine affairs of France, (conſiſting of forty-four articles, beſide a ſeparate one) which was to laſt for twenty-five years; "the ninth "article grants equal liberty to the Dutch as to the ſubjects of France, to carry merchandize "from the Levant to Marſeilles, as well by their own ſhips as in French ſhips, without being "ſubject to the twenty per cent. unleſs in caſes where the French themſelves are ſubject to it.

"By the tenth, the Dutch may freely import ſalted herrings into France, without being "liable to re-package.

"By the nineteenth, contraband goods are deſcribed to be all ſorts of fire arms and military "utenſils; alſo ſaltpetre, horſes, ſaddles, holſters, belts, &c.

"By the twentieth, wheat and other corn, pulſe, oil, wine, and ſalt, were not to be deemed contraband goods, nor were any other things, in general, which tended to the nouriſhment of life: but ſhall remain free, as other merchandize, and may be tranſported even to "enemies, excepting to towns actually beſieged or blocked up.

"By the twenty-ninth, privateers ſhall give fifteen thouſand livres Tournois, ſecurity, for "their not committing diſorders, &c."

The reſt of the forty-four articles relate to a multitude of points uſual in all other treaties of commerce, concerning mutual liberty of commerce, reception in their ports, captures, contraband goods, tolls, damages, ſearching of ſhips for contraband goods, arreſts, impoſts, paſſports, goods belonging to either party found in enemies ſhips, ſeizures, &c. and therefore needleſs to be particularized. But the ſeparate article ſtipulates, "That the impoſition of "fifty ſols per ton laid in France upon the ſhips of foreigners ſhall entirely ceaſe for the "future, with reſpect to all Dutch ſhips arriving in France, either laden or in ballaſt; ex-"cepting only in one particular caſe alone, viz. when Dutch ſhips ſhall lade merchandize in "one port of France and tranſport them to another port of France to unlade them."

In July 1713, there was a temporary or proviſional contract ſigned at Utrecht, between Great Britain and the States General, touching the commerce of the Spaniſh Netherlands, now unneceſſary to be ſpecified.

To conclude all that relates to the once famous grand alliance againſt France, the Britiſh miniſtry, by their ſeparate peace, having left and abandoned the Emperor and Empire to ſhift for themſelves, it was eaſy to gueſs they would not long hold out againſt the power of France and Spain. The Emperor therefore, for himſelf, in March 1714, (N. S.) concluded, at

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1713 Raſtat, a peace with France (the French King being empowered all along to treat for his grandſon) on as good terms as could well have been expected in his then ſituation, being obliged to leave Landau and Straſburg in the poſſeſſion of France, and to conſent that Arras, Doua, and Liſle, ſhould alſo remain to France, and to reſtore the Electors of Cologne and Bavaria to every thing they before enjoyed. And, in September following, what was ſtiled a ſolemn treaty of peace was concluded at Baden, between the Emperor and Empire and the French King, which confirmed what was ſtipulated by that of Raſtat, relating to the frontier towns in Alſace and the Netherlands, and to the reſtoration of the before-named Electors; as alſo recognizing the electoral dignity to the Houſe of Brunſwic Lunenburg: it confirmed alſo the former intercourſe of commerce between France and the Empire, and the rights, commerce, and privileges of the imperial cities, and Hans-towns; as well as what the Emperor then poſſeſſed in Italy, the neutrality of which country was alſo confirmed: but nothing is remarkable therein, in relation to commercial hiſtory.

Laſtly, The brave Catalans, by Great Britain's ſeparate peace, after a moſt obſtinate ſtruggle for their liberties, againſt the united power of France and Spain, were neceſſitated to ſubmit to the terms of the conquerors; abandoned by Queen Anne's miniſtry, contrary to the moſt ſolemn engagements and repeated aſſurances.

In this ſame year 1713, there was a renewal made, for fifty years, of the former treaties between the States General of the united provinces of the Netherlands, and the Burgomaſters and Common Council of the free and imperial city of Lubeck; for the preſervation of the freedom of commerce: to which defenſive treaty and confederacy, any other of the Hans-towns were hereby permitted to accede. This treaty was occaſioned by the then raging wars between the northern potentates bordering on the Baltic Shores.

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament, of the twelfth year of Queen Anne, cap. xi. To raiſe one million two hundred thouſand pounds for public uſes, by circulating a further ſum in Exchequer-bills, &c. The Bank of England, undertaking the circulation of that ſum in Exchequer-bills, was to have three pounds per cent. per annum for the ſame. And for the better enabling the Bank to perform that circulation, by exchanging the ſame from time to time for ready money on demand, this act allows them eight thouſand pounds yearly, over and above the forty-five thouſand pounds allowed them annually by the ninth of the ſaid Queen, till all the preſent and former Exchequer-bills ſhould be paid off and cancelled.—For which end the Bank might call in money from their proprietors, which might be called additional ſtock.—The Bank likewiſe was to continue a corporation till all ſhould be paid off and cancelled—On twelve months notice, after the firſt of Auguſt 1742, and repayment of the yearly fund and of the original capital of one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds, then the corporation of the Bank was to ceaſe and determine.

In the beginning of the year 1714, Queen Anne's declining ſtate of health, and the great uneaſineſs of the men of property, on the ſuppoſition of her death, (which quickly followed) occaſioned a conſiderable fall in the prices of the public funds, viz. Bank ſtock from one hundred and twenty ſix to one hundred and ſixteen; South Sea ſtock from ninety-four one-half to eighty-five. There was alſo, for ſome days, a great run on the Bank: yet national credit very ſoon returned to its former ſtate, and even gradually advanced higher than before; although, at the death of that Princeſs, the public or national debt amounted to about fifty millions of money.

1714 Upon the joint petition of Mr. Whiſton and Mr. Ditton, and the opinions of our great Sir Iſaac Newton and of Dr. Halley, in the year 1714, an act of the Britiſh Parliament paſſed, of

A. D. 1714 of the twelfth year of Queen Anne, ſecond ſeſſion, cap. xv. For providing a public Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea. The preamble whereof is as follows, viz.

" Whereas it is well known by all that are acquainted with the art of navigation, that nothing is ſo much wanted and deſired at ſea as the diſcovery of the longitude, for the ſafety " and quickneſs of voyages, the preſervation of ſhips and of the lives of men: and whereas, " in the judgment of able mathematicians and navigators, ſeveral methods have already been " diſcovered, true in theory, though very difficult in practice, ſome of which, there is reaſon " to expect, may be capable of improvement, ſome already diſcovered may be propoſed to " the public, and others may be invented hereafter. And whereas ſuch diſcovery would be " of particular advantage to the trade of Great Britain, and very much for the honour of this " kingdom: but, beſide the great difficulty of the thing itſelf, partly for the want of ſome " public reward as an encouragement,—and partly for want of money for trials and experiments neceſſary thereunto, no ſuch inventions or propoſals hitherto made have been " brought to perfection.—It was therefore now enacted, that the Lord High Admiral, the " Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and ſeveral other great officers, by virtue of their " offices, and many perſons beſide," (all now deceaſed) " be commiſſioners for trying and " judging of all propoſals, experiments, and improvements, relating to the ſame; and any " five of them are hereby empowered for that end;—who, being ſatisfied of the probability " of ſuch diſcovery, ſhall certify the ſame to the commiſſioners of the navy,—who are hereby " authoriſed to make out a bill for any ſum not exceeding two thouſand pounds, as ſuch " commiſſioners for the longitude ſhall think neceſſary for making the experiments,—which " laſt-named commiſſioners ſhall declare how far the ſame is found practicable.—And the ultimate reward for the diſcoverer of the longitude, if he determines it to one degree, or ſixty " geographical miles, ſhall be ten thouſand pounds, if to two-thirds of a degree, fifteen thouſand pounds, and if to half a degree, twenty thouſand pounds, &c."

All that is neceſſary to be added on this important ſubject, is, that a very conſiderable ſum of money has been already expended on fruitleſs experiments; and that many are of opinion the longitude never can be found; but who can pronounce with certainty on a ſubject of this nature, ſince many uſeful diſcoveries have, at different times, been made on other points of great importance, when they were leaſt expected.

Another moſt uſeful ſtatute was made in the ſame ſeſſion of Parliament, cap. xvi. To reduce the Rate of Intereſt, without any Prejudice to Parliamentary Securities, and has the following preamble, viz.

" Whereas the reducing of intereſt to ten, and from thence to eight, and thence to ſix in " the hundred, hath from time to time, by experience, been found very beneficial to the " advancement of trade and improvement of lands;—it is become abſolutely neceſſary," (for various reaſons which in this work have been at large, and at different times, exhibited) " to " reduce the high rate of intereſt of ſix per cent. to a nearer proportion with the intereſt allowed for money in foreign ſtates.—It was therefore hereby enacted,

" Firſt, That, from Michaelmas 1714, no perſon ſhall, directly nor indirectly, take for " the loan of monies, goods, or merchandize, above the value of five pounds for the forbearance of one hundred pounds for a year.

" Secondly, And that all bonds, contracts, and aſſurances whatſoever, made after the ſaid " date for payment of any principal or money to be lent, or covenanted to be performed upon " or for any uſury," (more eſpecially as the natural intereſt of money, or what a reſponſible

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1714 man might borrow money at, was now proportioned to this reduction) "whereupon or "whereby there ſhall be reſerved or taken above the rate of five pounds in the hundred, as "aforeſaid, ſhall be utterly void.

"Thirdly, That every perſon who ſhall, after the time aforeſaid, upon any contract, take, "accept, and receive, by way or means of any corrupt bargain, loan, exchange, chevizance, "ſhift, or intereſt of any wares, merchandize, or other thing whatever; or, by any deceitful "way or means, or by any covin, engine, or deceitful conveyance for the forbearing or "giving day of payment, for one whole year, of and for their money or other thing, above "the ſum of five pounds for one hundred pounds for a year; and ſo after that rate for a "greater or leſſer ſum, or for a longer or ſhorter term; ſhall forfeit and loſe, for every ſuch "offence, the treble value of the monies or other things ſo lent, bargained, &c.

"Fourthly, That all ſcriveners, brokers, ſolicitors, and drivers of bargains for contracts, "who ſhall, after the ſaid twenty-ninth of September 1714, take or receive above five ſhillings for the loan of one hundred pounds for a year, or above twelve-pence over and above "the ſtamp duties, for renewing of the bond or bill for loan, or for any counter-bond or "bill concerning the ſame, ſhall forfeit for every ſuch offence twenty pounds with coſts of "ſuit, and ſuffer impriſonment for half a year: moiety to the crown, moiety to the proſecutor."

In this act we again ſee, as we have on other occaſions obſerved, that the word uſury is ſtill a legal term for what we commonly call the intereſt of money lent, although that term be now commonly applied to illegal or exorbitant intereſt only.

By another ſtatute of the ſame ſeſſion, cap. xviii. For preſerving all ſuch Ships and the Goods thereof, which ſhall happen to be forced on Shore, or ſtranded, upon the Coaſts of this Kingdom, or any other of her Majeſty's Dominions:—"The ſtatute of the third of "King Edward the Firſt, concerning wrecks at ſea, is now confirmed, which enacts, That "where a man, a dog, or a cat eſcape quick," *i. e.* alive, "out of the ſhip, neither that "ſhip nor barge, nor any thing in them ſhall be adjudged a wreck; but the goods ſhall be "ſaved for the proprietors, &c.—And alſo a ſtatute of the fourth of that King,—that if any "lay hands on the wreck, he ſhall be attached by ſufficient pledges, and the price of the wreck "ſhall be valued and delivered to the next town. And whereas great complaints have been "made by both Britiſh and foreign merchants,—that their ſhips being unfortunately, near "home, run on ſhore, have been barbarouſly plundered,—and their cargoes embezzled; and "when any part thereof has been ſaved, it has been ſwallowed up by exorbitant demands for "ſalvage: it was now enacted, that the ſheriffs, juſtices of the peace, and magiſtrates of "port towns; alſo conſtables, tything men, and officers of the cuſtoms, ſhall, upon application made to them by the concerned, command the conſtables to ſummon as many men as "neceſſary, for aſſiſting in the preſervation of ſuch ſhip in diſtreſs, and the goods thereof;— "and if any Queen's ſhip or merchant ſhip be riding at anchor near the wreck, their aſſiſtance ſhall be demanded; or, neglecting ſuch aſſiſtance, the commander of ſuch ſhip ſhall "forfeit one hundred pounds to the proprietors of the ſhip in diſtreſs.

"Secondly, For the encouragement of ſuch as ſhall aſſiſt,—the collectors of the cuſtoms "and the commander of ſuch ſhip, and all others aſſiſting, ſhall be paid a reaſonable reward for "the ſame from the proprietors.—And, in default of ſuch reward, the ſaid ſhip or goods, ſo "ſaved, ſhall remain in the cuſtody of ſuch officer of the cuſtoms until all charges be paid, "and ſuch reaſonable gratification given, or ſecurity for it, of which three neighbouring juſtices ſhall adjuſt the quantum to be paid. Goods, not claimed by the right owners in twelve "months, ſhall be ſold, and periſhable goods immediately; and the value of both ſhall be

A. D. 1714 " lodged in the Exchequer, till claimed by the right owners. Perſons entering a diſtreſſed " ſhip, without proper leave, or obſtructing the ſaving of ſhip or goods, or, when ſaved, de- " facing the marks of ſuch goods, ſhall make double ſatisfaction, or be ſent to an houſe of " correction for twelve months: and ſuch perſons, ſo entering the ſhip without leave, may " be legally repelled by force. Goods carried off, without leave, and not returned, the taker " thereof ſhall forfeit treble the value. The making holes in any ſhip in ſuch diſtreſs, or " ſtealing the pump thereof, or otherwiſe contributing to its deſtruction, ſhall be felony with- " out benefit of clergy.

" Proviſo, for ſaving the right of the crown, or of patentees, or of Lords of Manors, to " any wreck, or to goods that ſhall be flotſam, jetſam, or lagan," (*i. e.* floating, thrown on land, or lying on the ſhores) " within their reſpective juriſdictions."

By an act of the fourth of King George, this ſtatute was made perpetual: " And for effec- " tually preventing the wilful caſting away, burning, or otherwiſe deſtroying of ſhips by the " owners, maſters, or mariners:—it was hereby enacted, that their doing ſo to the prejudice " of underwriters of policies of inſurance, or of merchants lading goods in ſuch ſhips, ſhall " ſuffer death."

Yet, we are truly ſorry to remark, that notwithſtanding this good law, there have been frequently very barbarous infractions of it, more eſpecially on the further ſouth weſtern ſhores of England, which ſeem to want a ſtronger enforcement: although this act directs it to be read four times yearly in all the pariſh churches and chapels of all ſea port towns on the ſea coaſts of the kingdom.

As we have formerly obſerved, that the Poſt Office revenue is, in ſome ſort, a kind of politico-commercial pulſe, or teſt of a nation's proſperity or otherwiſe; we ſhall here exhibit a ſtate thereof for ſome years paſt, as the materials have fallen in our way.

I. The author of the Royal Treaſury of England, octavo, 1725, p. 307, ſays, " That, " when an act of Parliament paſſed, in the year 1660, for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office " in England, it then brought in a revenue," (I preſume he meant, net) " of twenty-one " thouſand pounds per annum."

II. The rates of poſtage continuing the ſame till the end of 1710, we have obſerved, under the year 1711, that on a medium of three years, viz. in the years 1708-9-10, the net income was fifty-ſix thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-four pounds, according to Dr. D'Avenant's New Dialogues; but, by the printed report of the Commiſſioners of the Equivalent, in the year 1718, to the Houſe of Commons, that medium then amounted to ſixty-two thouſand pounds for England, and two thouſand pounds for Scotland.

III. From Lady-day, or the beginning of 1711, an addition of one-third to the poſtage of home letters was made, by an act of Parliament, and, on a medium of four years, viz. 1711, 1712-13-14, to Lady-day 1715, the net revenue was:

	£. 90,223
Now deducting the revenue at the reſtoration - - -	21,000
	69,223
Alſo one-third for the increaſe in 1711, by the above additional poſtage, -	23,000
And the net increaſe of this revenue, ſince the reſtoration, is -	£. 46,000

Only deducting about two thouſand pounds for Scotland. Which laſt-named deduction is probably more than compenſated by the additional expence ariſen from the great increaſe of franked letters at this period.

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1714 About this time, the Emperor Charles the Sixth firſt granted commiſſions to ſhips fitted out at Oſtend, for trading to the Eaſt Indies, by which great quantities of India goods were brought and ſupplied to Europe, which very much interfered with the commerce of the Engliſh and Dutch Companies; moſt of which interloping ſhips, as well as their commanders and ſecret projectors, were, nevertheleſs, procured from England and Holland. Some ſhips under that Prince's commiſſion, were fitted out from Liſbon and Leghorn. All which moved the Engliſh and Dutch companies to make loud complaints at the court of Vienna, though as yet, and for ſome years after, without redreſs.

On the ninth of June 1714, the Engliſh Houſe of Commons addreſſed Queen Anne, that her quarter part of the Aſſiento contract with Spain might be applied to the diſcharge of the national debts; but on the eighteenth, ſhe anſwered, that ſhe had given the ſame up to the South Sea Company. And the ſame year, the Queen granted two other ſhips of war to accompany and eſcort the other two ſhips which ſhe had before granted, for carrying out the company's goods, factors, &c. The ports to which that Company had leave to trade, and at which to ſettle factories, were Panama in the South Sea; and Porto-bello, Carthagena, and Vera Cruz, on the North Sea; Buenos-Ayres on the Rio de la Plata, and the Port of Havanna in the iſle of Cuba; beſide their inland ſub-factories in New Spain, &c. and their agents at Jamaica, as well as at Cadiz and Madrid in Old Spain. So here was a moſt pompous and ſpecious outſet. And the Queen's grant of her quarter part of the Aſſiento not having been formerly conveyed to the company before her death, King George I. confirmed that grant, on his acceſſion to the crown, as alſo of the four ſhips above-named, which ſailed to America in the beginning of the year 1715.

Nevertheleſs, in the debates in Parliament, it already too plainly appeared, that, from the explanations made by the Court of Madrid, to their treaty of commerce with Britain, ſince the ſigning the treaty of Utrecht, it was not very probable that we ſhould be able to carry on an advantageous trade with the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, as matters then ſtood.

The acceſſion of the preſent royal family of Hanover to the Britiſh throne, by the death of Queen Anne, gave great ſatisfaction to the better part of the nation of all ranks, and eſpecially to the monied and trading intereſts, who thereupon aſſumed new life and vigour: and although diſaffection ſoon after broke out into open rebellion, yet that being alſo ſoon and eaſily quelled, our general commerce and manufactures have continued, very ſenſibly, to increaſe ever ſince that happy period, Our mercantile ſhipping, not only in London, but in moſt of our other ſea-ports, have alſo viſibly increaſed, as in Briſtol, Liverpool, Glaſgow, Dublin, Corke, Waterford, and in many other ports of Britain and Ireland; and for a never failing confirmation of the great increaſe of the commerce of thoſe cities and towns, let the vaſt increaſe of the ſuburbs of London and Dublin more eminently ſpeak, ſince that period; as well as of Briſtol and Liverpool, and of ſeveral inland manufacturing towns to a great degree alſo; ſuch as Manchester, Birmingham, &c. And the like may be ſaid with reſpect to the American colonies. Where liberty and property are inviolably preſerved, and the eſtabliſhed form of religion firmly ſecured, whilſt, at the ſame time, ſuch as diſſent from it, of all perſuaſions of Proteſtants, are made eaſy and ſafe under the protection of the laws; what can poſſibly hinder ſuch a country and people from growing rich and powerful? On the other hand, whilſt, for want of heirs of the Queen's body, the ſpurious pretenſions of one bred up in the perſecuting bigotry of a very different religion from ours, and yet favoured by too many at home, as well as encouraged by certain foreign potentates, hung over our heads, it is not to be wonder-

A. D. 1714 ed at that in the latter part of that Queen's reign, a general diffidence and uneaſineſs prevailed amongſt all ranks, until the legal ſettlement of a Proteſtant ſucceſſion, with a numerous royal family, took place. And where ſuch a general uneaſineſs long continues, commerce will gradually languiſh, many perſons will at length leave ſuch a country, to ſeek for ſweet content and liberty elſewhere; and as the people will thereby decreaſe, ſo will likewiſe their manufactures and ſhipping. But, thanks to kind Providence, the reverſe is now, and long has been, our happy condition.

1715 King Louis the Fourteenth, of France, dying in this year 1715, we ſhall only briefly obſerve, that, as during his long reign, he had done much hurt to his country's manufactures, by driving out of France ſo many induſtrious manufacturers, artiſans, and merchants, whom neceſſity prompted to exerciſe their arts and ſkill in the countries whither they had retired for ſhelter; ſo, on the other hand, in his reign, foreign commerce and plantations were conſiderably improved by the French: he had alſo greatly improved and increaſed his marine, ſo as to have ſometimes proved a match for the joint fleets of both the other ſo-called maritime powers of Europe. And although in this work we have nothing particularly to do with his unjuſt invaſions of his peaceable neighbours, any farther than it affected the general ſtate of commerce either in his own kingdom or elſewhere; yet we cannot avoid remarking, that his perſecuting and expelling his Proteſtant ſubjects had nearly depopulated a conſiderable part of his country, and alſo greatly leſſened the former vaſt conſumption of French manufactures in foreign countries, as we have elſewhere remarked: his foreign wars had alſo conſumed great numbers of his people, ſo that it is doubted by many, whether France would not upon the whole have been happier, more populous, and richer, had Louis ſolely cultivated the arts of peace and manufactures, and thereby not only would have increaſed his own people, but would likewiſe have drawn thither great numbers of foreigners; inſtead of his having, by his unjuſt conqueſts, extended his dominions on almoſt every ſide; and would, by ſuch a policy, have alſo increaſed his maritime ſtrength and his American plantations.

But be this as it may, we ſhall only further obſerve, from Voltaire's ſecond volume of his Age of Louis the Fourteenth, " That during his whole reign, Louis had expended eighteen " thouſand millions French money, which, on an average, comes to three hundred and " thirty millions yearly of preſent money:"—or about fourteen millions ſterling per annum, one year with another.

In Mr. Wood's Survey of Trade, p. 51, he gives us the balance of commerce in our favour, for the years 1713 and 1714: on a medium of the ſaid two years, viz. our exports, on a medium, exceeded our imports two millions one hundred and three thouſand one hundred and forty-eight pounds yearly.

About this time, pig and bar iron began firſt to be made in the Britiſh American province of Virginia, and of a very good ſtaple or kind: which new production is ſaid to be ſince much improved.

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament of the firſt year of King George the Firſt, For enlarging the Fund of the Bank of England, relating to Exchequer Bills, &c. it was enacted, " That, after the redemption of the Bank's original fund,—and likewiſe of the " fund created by this act, for further circulating of Exchequer Bills; then, and not " till then, the Corporation of the Bank ſhould ceaſe and determine." This was commonly called the Aggregate Fund, though not applied to conſtitute a part of the general

A. D.
1715 ral Sinking Fund for leſſening the national debts, till the act of the third of King George, cap. vii.

By an act of Parliament of this firſt year of King George the Firſt, For enlarging the capital Stock and yearly Fund of the South Sea Company, and for ſupplying thereby eight hundred twenty-two thouſand and thirty-two pounds four ſhillings and eight pence to public uſes; and for raiſing one hundred and ſixty-nine thouſand pounds, &c.

	£.	s.	d.
" The capital ſtock of the South Sea Company, which till now was	9,177,967	15	4
" Had an addition made to it from the Navy Office Treaſurer, of -	822,032	4	8
" Whereby that Company's capital was from and after Midſummer 1715, made up - - - -	10,000,000	0	0

Which additional ſtock conſiſted of the following particulars, viz.

£.	s.	d.	
275,339	0	8	For half a year's intereſt on their ſaid capital of nine million one hundred and ſeventy-ſeven thouſand nine hundred and ſixty-ſeven pounds fifteen ſhillings and four pence, from the half year, ended at Chriſtmas 1714, to Midſummer 1715.
300,000	0	0	More thereof in full for the half year ended at Chriſtmas 1715, on the increaſed capital.
8,000	0	0	For their allowance for charges of management for one year, ended on the twenty-fifth of December 1715.
583,339	0	8	
238,693	4	0	Laſtly, there was an addition of ſtock made transferable for the uſe of the public, as the Treaſury ſhould direct.
822,032	4	8	as above.

By theſe additions there was alſo an addition of forty-nine thouſand three hundred and twenty-one pounds eighteen ſhillings and eight-pence to the company's yearly fund, which thereby was made up ſix hundred thouſand pounds per annum, at ſix per cent.

Yet, notwithſtanding the proviſion hereby made for the year 1715, the company might ſtill proceed to receive the duties ariſing by ſalt, candles, clerks, apprentices, &c. by virtue of the act of the ninth of Queen Anne, whereby they were enabled to make their dividends for this year 1715, in money: and, that we may end this point here, though ſomewhat out of its place, the company's general court in May 1716, made the two half years dividends for the ſaid year 1716, in the ſtock aforeſaid; the dividends for both half years being made at Midſummer 1716, by adding ſix per cent. in ſtock to each proprietor's account, for the two half years dividends, (ninth and tenth) to Chriſtmas 1716.

In this ſame year, the South Sea Company's firſt annual ſhip was launched, giving her the name of the Royal Prince, in honour of the then Prince of Wales, ſince King George the Second, governor of that company, who, on that occaſion, was magnificently entertained on

A. D. 1715 board of her, with all his court: which ſhip's firſt voyage was in 1717, and her ſecond voyage, in the year 1723.

A printed paper now appeared, giving the vaſt net amount of the cuſtoms of England for the fifteen immediately preceding years; which was as follows, leaving out the odd ſhillings and pence, viz.

Anno 1700, — — —	£. 1,379,460
——— 1701, — — —	1,637,809
——— 1702, — — —	1,285,605
——— 1703, — —	1,206,549
——— 1704, — — —	1,401,390
——— 1705, — — —	1,139,277
——— 1706, — — —	1,311,856
——— 1707, — — —	1,192,081
——— 1708, — — —	1,351,536
——— 1709, — — — —	1,353,483 ☞
——— 1710, — — —	1,208,292
——— 1711, — — — —	1,253,598
——— 1712, — — —	1,315,423
——— 1713, — — — —	1,541,170
——— 1714, — — —	1,714,139
Total in fifteen years	20,291,468
The cuſtoms, on a medium, for one year, —	1,352,764

Here we may naturally obſerve, that three of the years of peace, viz. in the years 1701, 1713, and 1714, conſiderably exceeded any of the other eleven years; and yet a proſperous year of war, 1704, ſomewhat exceeded the year 1700, a year of peace, but an unſettled and threatening one. And, laſtly, that the above net amount of the year 1709, exactly correſponds with that given into the Houſe of Commons in the ſaid year, which ſo far confirms the authenticity of this account.

Upon a petition of the agent for the planters and merchants of Carolina, and of the other miſerable inhabitants of that colony, oppreſſed by the lords proprietors, and their defence againſt the Indians neglected, &c. the Houſe of Commons addreſſed the King to ſend them relief: And, a bill was brought into the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, for the better regulation of the charter and proprietary governments in America, and of his Majeſty's plantations there: the principal ſcope of which was, to reduce all theſe proprietary charter governments into regal ones.

Ever ſince the proprietary colonies began to be very conſiderable, that is, ſince the death of King Charles the Second, and more eſpecially ſince the revolution, in the year 1688, both King William and Queen Anne's councils and miniſtries foreſaw the great conſequence it would be of to the crown and kingdom, to buy off the lords proprietors of colonies, before they ſhould grow too powerful; and frequent treaties were held with them by the miniſters of the crown for that end, particularly with the truly great Mr. William Penn, for the purchaſe of his fine province of Pennſylvania. His demand was twenty thouſand pounds; and Queen Anne, in council, referred that demand to the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade and Plantations,

A. D. 1715 tions, whoſe report was referred by the Queen to the Lords Commiſſioners of the Treaſury; ſoon after which, an agreement was made with Mr. Penn for twelve thouſand pounds for that province: but he being ſoon after ſeized with an apoplexy, which diſabled him to execute the ſame, a ſtop was put to that bargain, until, by the Queen's order, a bill in Parliament ſhould be prepared for that end. Whilſt that bill was depending, Mr. Joſhua Gee, and others, who were mortgagees under Mr. Penn, petitioned the Houſe of Commons for relief; wherein they repreſented, that Mr. Penn having purchaſed of the Indians their title to that country, he had, by his induſtry, and at great charge, improved the country, and eſtabliſhed conſiderable colonies therein, by which he had very much impaired his eſtate in Europe; and that, in the year 1708, to clear a debt contracted for the ſettling and improving the ſaid colonies, he had borrowed of the ſaid mortgagees ſix thouſand ſix hundred pounds, to whom he mortgaged the ſaid province and all his powers of government.

Secondly, The Lord Baltimore, as we have ſeen under the year 1661, (though at this time only firſt repreſented to the legiſlature, by the young lord's guardians) in his petition repreſented, "the great expence his great grandfather had been at in ſettling his province of Mary-" land; and that he," (this minor) "and his three brothers and two ſiſters, lately become " Proteſtants," (the family having always been Papiſts till now) "have no way of providing " for themſelves but out of thoſe ſeveral branches of the civil government of the ſaid province, " which, by a bill entitled, For the better Regulation of the Charter and Proprietary Go-" vernments in America, and for the Encouragement of the Trade of this Kingdom and of " his Majeſty's Plantations, are intended to be taken away; the amount whereof is at leaſt " three thouſand pounds per annum; and, as the Indians in this province are very inconſi-" derable, the white people therein being much more numerous and ſtronger than they; they " therefore humbly hoped, that Maryland might be excepted out of this bill."

Thirdly, A petition was likewiſe preſented by the agent for his Majeſty's provinces of Maſſachuſet's Bay and Connecticut.

With relation to Maſſachuſet's Bay, it was repreſented, "That it had its charter from " King James the Firſt, in the eighteenth year of his reign, afterwards confirmed by King " Charles the Firſt, in the fourth year of his reign: by virtue whereof, the Governor and " Company of the Maſſachuſet's Bay had power to appoint their own officers, civil and mili-" tary, with other privileges therein mentioned: that in the reign of King James the Second " their charter was vacated, at the ſame time that many corporations in England were diſ-" franchiſed: that after the revolution, King William reſtored the charter, only reſerving to " himſelf the appointment of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Judge of the " Admiralty, and the Attorney General; and that this is the charter which the province now " enjoys. Hereupon it is humbly obſerved, that the charter of this province being on the " ſame footing with the corporations in England, it ſeems equally hard to diveſt them of it " as it would be to disfranchiſe the corporations at home. That this province has given a " valuable conſideration to the crown for their charter, viz. The ſubduing and planting a " wilderneſs, at a vaſt expence, and with the loſs of many lives; whereby they have added a " large territory to the crown, and thereby alſo greatly increaſed the trade and commerce of " Britain. That this province is not within the reaſons ſuggeſted in the bill: for they have " not exerciſed arbitrary power;" as is alleged therein to have been done by the Lords-Proprietors of Carolina, "neither indeed can they; for the principal officers before-mentioned, " being appointed by the crown, are ſuch a check on the government, that it is entirely out

" of

A. D. 1715 “of their power to oppreſs the ſubject. Moreover, they have not neglected the defence of the inhabitants: on the contrary, they have well defended both themſelves and their neighbours, in a long French and Indian war; and their ordinary charge for guards, garriſons, guardſhips, &c. has been thirty-five thouſand pounds one year with another. And though hereby the province has contracted a debt of one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, yet they do not complain; nor are they burdenſome to the crown, but are paying it off yearly by degrees. Moreover, if this charter ſhould be taken away, no compenſation can be made for it: whereas, in the caſe of proprietary governments, an equivalent may be given to the proprietors; as it ſeems is intended: but here it cannot be; becauſe the privileges are not veſted in particular perſons, but in the body of the people. Thus it is like to happen, that the proprietors of Carolina, &c. on whoſe account alone this bill is brought in, may come off well enough, whilſt the charter governments in New England, which have done nothing amiſs, ſhall be the only ſufferers. It is therefore humbly prayed, that this province may ſtill enjoy its privileges, by being excepted out of the bill, entitled, &c.” as before.

“IV. With reſpect to the Connecticut charter, which is intended to be taken away by this bill. It had, like other charter governments, a grant from the crown, whereby they were empowered to appoint all their own officers, civil and military, for the adminiſtration and execution of juſtice: that the firſt planters entirely confiding in the royal charter for the ſecurity of their liberties therein granted, did, at a vaſt expence and great peril, ſubdue and plant a wilderneſs: whereby they have increaſed the dominions of the crown, as well as the commerce of Britain: that they have, in all times ſince, defended themſelves againſt the enemy; and have impartially adminiſtered juſtice to the ſubject: and when public meaſures have been concerted, for the common good of the colonies, they have chearfully joined in the expence. Moreover, they have never to this day coſt the crown ſo much as one ſhilling.—Have ſtrictly obſerved the acts of trade and navigation.—They have been always dutiful to the crown: and, if their charter be taken away, no equivalent can be given for it;” for the reaſons aſſigned in the preceding Maſſachuſet's Bay petition. “It is therefore humbly hoped, that the colony of Connecticut may be excepted out of the bill.”

Petitions were alſo preſented in behalf of the Duke of Beaufort and the Lord Craven, both minors, to be heard by council againſt the paſſing of the bill; they being conſiderable proprietors in Carolina and the Bahama Iſlands. Alſo from the agent for the colony of Rhode Iſland and Providence Plantation in New England. The foregoing petitions, which contain much of the hiſtory of the firſt planting of theſe colonies, were referred to the committee to whom the bill was committed.

Yet, notwithſtanding all the buſtle occaſioned by the ſaid bill, it was in the end dropped; although it was moſt certainly and obviouſly of the laſt importance for the public, that the Proprietary colonies ſhould have been bought off and veſted in the crown.

By the treaty of peace concluded at Utrecht, in this year 1715, (and which therefore is publiſhed in the firſt volume of the hiſtory of the treaty of Utrecht) between King John V. of Portugal and King Philip V. of Spain; the latter yields up to the former, by the ſixth article, the territory and colony of the Sacrament, ſituated on the northern bank of the river of Plata, in America; but ſo as that no other nation of Europe ſhall be permitted to ſettle in or trade thither.—Yet, in the next (*i. e.* ſeventh) article, it is ſtipulated, that the King of Spain may nevertheleſs offer an equivalent for the ſaid colony, if agreeable to his Portugueſe Majeſty;

provided

A. D. 1715 provided it be made within one year and an half. All other conqueſts on either ſide are by this treaty to be mutually reſtored. Which is all that this treaty contains worth remarking.

N. B. There has ſince been a later treaty between thoſe two crowns, for the colony of Sacrament to be reſtored back to Spain, for a certain equivalent territory: but that treaty, we apprehend, has not as yet been fully executed, by reaſon of an oppoſition made by the Portugueſe inhabitants of the ſaid colony, &c.

So greatly does the colony of New England abound with naval ſtores of almoſt all kinds, that in a letter from one of its inhabitants to the Board of Trade and Plantations, printed in the year 1715, concerning the New England trade, it is aſſerted, "that one fleet only from "New England brought home ſix thouſand barrels of pitch, tar, and turpentine, to London. "That millions of trees are rotting in the woods, for want of encouragement to collect them. "Maſts," ſays this author, "we have the fineſt in the world.—Of hemp we have hitherto "raiſed but little; but our ſoil is very proper for it.—Our woods afford all ſorts of ſhip-"timber and plank. Ships of late we build very well, both for beauty and ſtrength.—Our "country abounds with iron ore; but we have not yet got into the way of making enough "for our own ſupply. Wherefore, to prevent our ſetting up, in New England, manufac-"tures that will interfere with Great Britain, it is highly neceſſary to employ the New Eng-"land people as much as poſſible in making naval ſtores, for their mother country, leſt they "ſhould hereafter be obliged to depend on the pleaſure of the Danes, Swedes, and Ruſſians, "for leave to ſet a fleet to ſea; to whom we pay ready money for their naval ſtores, which, "by the war in the north, have riſen near fifty per cent. on us. That, in the great ſcarcity "or dearneſs of woollen goods from England about nine years ago, the New England people, "not being able to pay two hundred per cent. and more advance thereon, did ſet up a very "conſiderable manufacture, ſtill in being, for ſtuffs, kerſeys, linſey-woolſeys, flannels, but-"tons, &c.—Copper alſo, New England has the beſt in the world, &c.—Herein even ſo "early as this time, we find our ſugar colonies complaining of New England's great trade to "the Dutch colony of Surinam, which they now ſupply with vaſt numbers of ſmall horſes, "and with proviſions, fiſh, &c. and, in return, took their melaſſes, which they made into "rum." The reſt of this piece pleads for a royal charter for incorporating a bank of credit, lately erected at Boſton, from which they promiſed great things to the colony, beſides one per cent. to the crown.

Such eſſays as this now before us, are to be cautiouſly conſidered, as being almoſt always exaggerated, becauſe generally calculated for certain partial ends or purpoſes. His plan in general is undoubtedly good; and we have before ſeen, that our legiſlature has encouraged it: neverthelеſs, as our colonies on the continent come to grow populous, it will be impoſſible altogether to prevent their entering upon manufactures interfering with thoſe of the mother country: and the moſt that can fairly be effected ſeems to be, to ſtudy as much as poſſible to ſet thoſe people upon raiſing of the raw materials of new productions, and particularly naval ſtores. As for their having copper and iron, it ſeems to be doubtful, whether it can ever prove profitable for the mother country. The former we have ſeen, by good authority, to be in great plenty with us at home: and, with regard to iron, we ſhall hereafter ſee how far the Britiſh legiſlature has judged proper to encourage it. Tin and lead mines have not as yet made their appearance in Britiſh America.

In December, Mr. Bubb, the Britiſh Miniſter at Madrid, now concluded a new treaty of commerce with the King of Spain; containing, however, nothing very particular.

By

A. D. 1715 By the firſt article, "Britiſh ſubjects were to pay no higher duties in the Spaniſh ports "than thoſe they paid for the ſame merchandize in the reign of the Catholic King Charles "the Second.

"The Second confirms the treaty made by the Britiſh ſubjects with the magiſtrates of St. "Andero, in the year 1700.

"By the third, they may (as formerly uſed) gather ſalt at the iſland of Tortuga.

"By the fourth and fifth, Britiſh ſubjects were to pay no higher duties than Spaniſh ſubjects paid in the ſame place; and are to enjoy all the rights, privileges, &c. which they "enjoyed before the laſt war, and by the treaty of 1667: alſo the ſubjects of both nations "ſhall be mutually treated as thoſe the moſt favoured in commercial matters.

"The ſixth and ſeventh aboliſhes innovations on either ſide, and confirms the treaty of "Utrecht."—Political State of Great Britain, vol. xi.

1716 Notwithſtanding what we have exhibited under the preceding year 1715, concerning the ſuper-abundance of naval ſtores in New England, and particularly of timber; yet we find, in the year 1716, Mr. Shute, Governor of the Maſſachuſet's Bay there, complaining to their aſſembly, "That, notwithſtanding a law paſſed in Great Britain for the encouraging of naval "ſtores for the navy royal, and for the preſervation of white pine trees in America, for maſts, "yards, &c. great ſpoils are daily committed in the King's woods, by cutting down and "putting to private uſes ſuch timber as may be proper for the navy royal." He therefore recommends the paſſing of a new law in New England, as well as the putting the old ones in ſtrict execution, for this great end.

In the former part of this year 1716, the Duke of Orleans, regent of France during the minority of their King Louis XV. had been ſo ill-adviſed, as by his edict to raiſe the nominal value of a Louis d'Or from ſixteen livres to twenty; and a crown from three and a half and four livres to five livres; to be received at the mint at the firſt-named prices, where they were to be reformed, *i. e.* by receiving a new ſtroke with the hammer. After which the Louis d'Or was to be current for twenty livres, and the crown for five livres. Thus he got one-fifth part of the value of both thoſe coins, gulling the people with a belief (but among the wiſer ſort with only a pretended one,) that they were no loſers by the regulation, becauſe they received back from the mint the ſame number of nominal livres as they had paid in; although they only received back four ounces of ſilver inſtead of five, which they were now to call it. This occaſioned great quantities of old ſpecie to be hoarded up, to the conſiderable obſtruction of the circulation of money.

For this malady a new expedient was adopted, in this very year, viz. The erecting of a General Bank, whoſe bills bore five per cent. intereſt. For, this bank paid out only in the new-raiſed ſpecie, though they received in both new and old ſpecie: as the coins were ſo fluctuating in value, and the Bank-bills were invariable, people for that reaſon carried all their money to the Bank. This was allurement ſufficient for the Duke-Regent to ſeize on ſo vaſt a traſure. The Bank therefore on a ſudden was made to ſtop payment; although the quantity of gold and ſilver coin then in France was computed to be near four hundred millions of livres, or near ſeventeen millions of ſterling money. And thus, the King's Treaſury was filled by the ruin of his people. In the ſame manner, though not quite as yet in ſo violent a degree, were the public debts paid off in France. The capital was retrenched and the intereſt reduced by edicts without the conſent of the creditors; ſo that ſome of the public ſecurities

1716 rities fell fifty per cent. others eighty per cent. and ſome fell ninety per cent. Which ſad ſtate of things produced innumerable bankruptcies.

There was coined in the Tower of London, from Auguſt 1715 to Auguſt 1716, one million five hundred and forty-two thouſand one hundred and fifty-five pounds in gold; and but ſeven thouſand pounds in ſilver:—Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, for Auguſt 1716. And it was reckoned that near two-thirds of that gold was melted down from French Louis d'Ors.

No redreſs being obtained for the offenders invading the privileges of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, a proclamation was iſſued by the Prince of Wales, Guardian of the Realm in the King his Father's abſence, for ſtrictly prohibiting his Majeſty's ſubjects from trading to the Eaſt Indies, under foreign commiſſions, contrary to the privileges of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company; and alſo from ſerving on board ſuch foreign ſhips.

Some controverſies having, in this year 1716, ariſen concerning the trade of Great Britain into the countries and ports within the Baltic Sea, we find in a periodical paper, (formerly well known by the name of Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, conſiſting in all of ſixty octavo volumes, comprehending thirty years ſpace, viz. from the firſt of January 1710 to the laſt of December 1740,) for the month of November 1721, the total value at prime coſt, of all merchandize, either imported or exported, between Great Britain on one ſide, and Denmark, comprehending alſo Norway, Sweden, the Eaſt Country, *i. e.* Pruſſia and Livonia, and Ruſſia, during the ſaid year 1716, viz.

Imported in the year 1716, into Great Britain,	£.	£.
1. From Denmark and Norway, (rejecting the odd ſhillings and pence) in maſts, timber, pitch and tar, hemp, &c. - - -	75,896	
2. From the Eaſt Country, chiefly in maſts and hemp, linen, &c. -	103,635	
3. From Sweden, chiefly in iron, pitch and tar, maſts, &c. -	136,959	
4. From Ruſſia, chiefly in hemp, pitch, tar, maſts, &c. -	197,270	
Total imported	———	511,760
Exported from Great Britain, viz.		
1. To Denmark and Norway - - -	60,317	
2. To the Eaſt Country - - - -	65,293	
3. To Sweden - - - - -	24,101	
4. To Ruſſia - - - - -	113,154	
Total exported	———	262,865
Total balance, or loſs to Great Britain	£.	248,895

Excepting ſome few commodities from Ruſſia and Pruſſia, as rhubarb, and ſometimes raw ſilk from Perſia, Cavear, &c. every other article from thoſe northern parts are ſince this time diſcovered to be had from the American plantations; as, iron from New York and Pennſylvania, timber of all kinds from moſt of our continent colonies, pitch and tar from the ſame, as alſo hemp and flax: raw ſilk, increaſing apace from Carolina and Georgia. Our legiſlature indeed granted various bounties on ſeveral of thoſe commodities, already with good effect. We will not, however, anſwer for the preciſe exactneſs of the above account; but fear the general

A. D. 1716 neral balance is increaſed againſt us ſince that time, more eſpecially with reſpect to Ruſſia.— Compare this account with that under the year 1701.

Mr. Bubb, the Britiſh Miniſter at Madrid, in behalf of the South Sea Company, now concluded a treaty by way of an explanation or emendation of the Aſſiento contract for negroes: but as that trade has been long ſince laid aſide, we ſhall not detain our readers with what is elſewhere in print, and may likewiſe probably be of very little information or uſe to any at this time, or perhaps at any other period of time. Only we may juſt remark, that the annual ſhip allowed, was ſtipulated to be of ſix hundred and fifty tons, Spaniſh meaſure, from the year 1717 to the year 1727.

1717 The Dutch Eaſt India Company's privileges were now prolonged for forty years to come.

An unnatural rebellion of free and Proteſtant ſubjects, in behalf of a Popiſh pretender, and againſt a moſt humane and indulgent Proteſtant King on the throne of Great Britain, being happily ſuppreſſed, the Miniſtry and Parliament determined to take advantage of a time of tranquillity for reducing the intereſt on the public debts, in order for their future leſſening the principal thereof gradually. For which good purpoſe the reduction of the legal intereſt of money from ſix to five per cent. in the year 1714, prepared the way; as did alſo what is uſually called the natural intereſt of money, or that rate of intereſt at which money might now be borrowed on good private ſecurity.

In order that this good and great end might be attained with ſucceſs and ſecurity, the government treated with the Bank and South Sea Company, to whom a great part of the national debts were due, and brought them to agree not only for the reduction of the intereſt on their own reſpective capitals from ſix to five per cent. but for the Bank's advancing or lending to the public, when wanted, two million five hundred thouſand pounds, and the South Sea Company the ſum of two million at five per cent. intereſt; to be in readineſs for paying off ſuch of the proprietors of the orders of four lotteries of the reign of Queen Anne, and of other redeemable annuities, as ſhould demand their principal money to be paid to them, inſtead of accepting of five per cent. in lieu of their preſent intereſt of ſix per cent. This ſalutary ſcheme was effected in conſequence of three ſeveral acts of Parliament of the third year of King George cap. vii. viii. and ix.

By the Firſt, entitled, An Act for redeeming the Duties and Revenues which were ſettled to pay off the Principal and Intereſt on the Orders made forth on four Lottery Acts, &c. commonly called the General Fund, " the ſaid two companies were impowered to borrow money " on their common ſeal, or to make calls on their proprietors, for enabling them to advance to " the public the two ſums above ſpecified: the ſaid reduction of intereſt to commence from and " after Michaelmas 1727: for which intereſt a new annual fund was hereby eſtabliſhed, and has " ever ſince been called the General Fund, amounting to ſeven hundred and twenty-four thouſand eight hundred and forty-nine pounds ſix ſhillings and ten pence one-fifth." Hereby meaſures were ſo well-concerted by the government, that all the proprietors of thoſe redeemable debts acquieſced in the ſaid reduction of their intereſt from ſix to five per cent. without borrowing any part of the ſaid two million five hundred thouſand pounds of the Bank, or of the two million of the South Sea Company, ſtipulated as before-mentioned.

For, Secondly, By an act, cap. viii. For redeeming ſeveral Funds of the Bank purſuant to former Proviſoes of Redemption, &c. " The Bank's willingneſs to accept of five per cent. intereſt for all the debts due to that corporation was declared, in lieu of their then allowances, " and to advance the two million five hundred thouſand pounds, if called for: and the Bank

1717 "was hereby to deliver up two million of Exchequer bills; for which they were to have an "annuity of one hundred thouſand pounds, redeemable on one year's notice after Chriſtmas "1717." This is called the Aggregate Fund, firſt eſtabliſhed by an act of the firſt year of King George, cap. xii. though not particularly applied to leſſening the national debts till now. Hereby alſo the Bank was to have three per cent. per annum, and one penny per cent. per diem, inſtead of two pence formerly allowed, for circulating of the ſum of two million five hundred and ſixty-one thouſand and twenty-five pounds, being the remaining Exchequer bills, till fully cancelled, from Chriſtmas 1717: ſo that the whole capital of the Bank was hereby increaſed to five million three hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand and twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten pence, viz.

		£.	s.	d.
The original capital ſtock was		1,600,000	0	0
The Exchequer bills, cancelled by the ſeventh of Queen Anne		1,775,027	17	10
And now by Exchequer bills cancelled		2,000,000	0	0
Total Bank capital	£.	5,375,027	17	10

But their ſaid original capital of one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds was to continue at ſix per cent. intereſt to the firſt of Auguſt 1742.

And, Thirdly, The very next act of this ſame ſeſſion was, cap. ix. For redeeming the yearly Fund of the South Sea Company at ſix per Cent and ſettling on that Company a yearly Fund at five per Cent. redeemable by Parliament, &c. as before mentioned, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
The South Sea Company's preſent capital being	10,000,000	0	0

And their preſent annual fund being ſix hundred thouſand pounds, their fund was now reduced from ſix to five per cent. *i. e.* from ſix hundred thouſand to five hundred thouſand pounds, from and after Midſummer 1718, beſide their yearly allowance of eight thouſand pounds for charges of management.—The Company was alſo hereby impowered to borrow money on their common ſeal, either for the purpoſes of this act, or for carrying on their trade, or other neceſſary occaſions, at ſuch intereſt as they ſhould think fit, and for any time not leſs than ſix months: and although their fund may hereafter be redeemed, viz. on one year's notice after Midſummer 1723, yet their trade and corporate capacity was hereby to continue for ever. This was, in the ſtile of the Exchequer, called the South Sea Fund.

By all which ſavings, viz. by one per cent. on the funds before-named, and by one penny per cent. per day, ſaved for the future on Exchequer bills hereafter to be circulated, a good beginning or foundation was laid for the famous Sinking Fund, amounting then to three hundred and twenty-three thouſand four hundred and thirty-four pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſeven pence halfpenny per annum. Moreover, for the greater convenience of the proprietors of the before-mentioned Lottery Orders, and other debts at the Exchequer, hereby ranged under this new general fund, they were brought from the Exchequer to the Bank, and erected into a transferable ſtock at five per cent. intereſt. This yearly ſaving or ſurplus, called the Sinking Fund, was hereby to be ſolely applicable to the diſcharge of the principal and intereſt of ſuch national debts as were contracted before Chriſtmas 1716. As by the firſt named act, cap. vii. the moiety of the original bankers debt, (which had been by the twelfth of King William, cap.

A. D. 1717 cap. xii. fixed at ſix per cent. and which moiety was thereby properly made the whole debt on the public to be redeemed) amounting to ſix hundred and ſixty four thouſand two hundred and ſixty-three pounds was included in the redemption from ſix to five per cent. and as almoſt all other public debts comprehended in that act, called the Aggregate Fund, were either ſubſcribed into the South Sea Company in the year 1720, or have been ſince paid off or annihilated, we have the more conciſely deſcribed them, as they now exiſt no more.

N. B. By a clauſe in the ſaid act, cap. vii. the duty of ſix pence on every piece of forty ells of Britiſh-made linen exported, which had been laid on by the Tonnage and Poundage Act, was taken off; " the ſaid manufacture," ſays this act, " employing many thouſands of the " poor of this kingdom."

Thus out of the before-named three funds, called the Aggregate, the General, and the South Sea Fund, was formed the Sinking Fund; being purely the ſurpluſſes or ſavings out of thoſe funds, by the ſeveral reductions now and afterward to be made in the rates of intereſt and allowances: and as theſe have at different times been leſſened, and annual or other payments have been made to the creditors of the public out of the Sinking Fund, it has proportionably increaſed.

And as it ſeems at leaſt probable, that the original hint of this ſinking fund may have been copied from thoſe of two foreign ſtates, viz. Holland and the Papacy, in the years 1655, and 1685, we were the rather inclined to take particular cognizance of them, as they both proved ſucceſsful.

We ſhall only further remark on this firſt famous reduction of the intereſt on the national funds, and the eſtabliſhment of a fund for the further leſſening the public debts, that inſtead of lowering the prices of the ſeveral ſtocks at market, it was ſeen, that by Michaelmas in the ſaid year 1717, they had conſiderably riſen in price; and particularly, that South Sea ſtock which, at Lady-day 1717, was but at one hundred three-fourth per cent. got up to one hundred and eleven one-half per cent. by Michaelmas.

The Duke Regent of France, having, in the year 1716, erected the firſt public properly circulating bank that had ever been in France, by the perſuaſion of Mr. John Law, a native of Scotland, and a goldſmith's ſon at Edinburgh; by which he propoſed mighty matters for advancement of the commerce and manufactures of France: " Which kingdom," ſays the preamble to the Patent for that bank, very juſtly, " by its ſituation and fertility, wanted nothing but a ſolid credit to eſtabliſh therein the moſt flouriſhing commerce.—Wherefore, the " Sieur Law has now authority granted to him and his company for twenty years, to iſſue " notes, as a public bank, with abſolute protection for the caſh of foreigners, even although " their country ſhould be at war with France.—The crowns or money of this bank to be always of the ſame weight and fineneſs.—Their notes to be always payable on demand.—And " the Regent of France, the Duke of Orleans, was hereby declared its protector.—This bank " might keep caſh for merchants, and diſcount bills of exchange, &c."

This bank was principally projected by Mr. Law for the purpoſe of paying off the public debts of France, being above fifteen hundred millions of livres, or about ſeventy millions ſterling, by drawing its creditors into the newly-projected Miſſiſippi or India Company; for which purpoſe, the Sieur Crozat was brought to reſign his patent of the country of the Miſſiſippi, by the name of Louiſiana, granted to him in 1712.—In this year 1717, therefore, the Regent erected a company of commerce by the name of the Company of the Weſt, commonly called the Miſſiſippi Company, with the ſole trade thither, and alſo the trade of beaver to Canada for

twenty-

1717 twenty-five years: and great pains were taken to ſpread all over France, pompous accounts of the country of Miſſiſippi, from north latitude twenty-nine, up to the country of Canada or New France, in north latitude forty.

This new company for Louiſiana could not but give ground of jealouſy to Great Britain, it lying behind our American plantations, and its capital town, New Orleans, being already increaſed to ſix hundred houſes.

Mr. Law was appointed Chief Director of this company, into which all the national debts were intended to be brought, being now at ſixty to ſeventy per cent. diſcount; this being an exact copy of the Earl of Oxford's ſcheme for the South Sea Company in the year 1711.—In December, in this ſame year 1717, the capital ſtock of this Miſſiſippi Company was fixed at one hundred millions of livres, with four per cent. intereſt. In the mean time, as the Bank was to co-operate with this company for the ſaid grand ſcheme, the King directed all the receivers of his revenues to make their receipts and payments in bank bills only. As the ſaid public debts were taken in at par, it might have been expected that the creditors would have readily come in: yet it was ſometime before they could get one hundred millions ſubſcribed, where we will leave them for the preſent.

In this ſame year 1717, there appearing to be a conſiderable ſcarcity of ſilver coin in England, by reaſon our gold coins were rated too high in price; and the great Sir Iſaac Newton being thereupon conſulted, by the Lords-Commiſſioners of the Treaſury: he adviſed the reduction of guineas from twenty-one ſhillings and ſix pence to twenty-one ſhillings; which was accordingly done, by the approbation of the Houſe of Commons, who addreſſed the King for this purpoſe; at which rate they have remained ever ſince: whereby, in ſome meaſure, the ſilver coins, which had before been exported in exchange for gold, were kept at home. Guineas were originally coined only for twenty ſhillings in ſilver, and ſo were the old broad pieces of King Charles the Firſt, though at this time paſſing for one pound three ſhillings and ſix pence. But now the caſe is going to be the reverſe, occaſioned by the vaſt exportations of ſilver bullion to the Eaſt Indies, whereby ſilver is become ſcarcer, and gold is become more plenty by the profit of bringing gold from India and China. For ſilver ever has, and probably ever will hold the prerogative of being the fixed ſtandard; gold being always valued by ſilver, but not ſilver by gold. It was aſſerted, that our Eaſt India Company had exported, in one year, near three million ounces of ſilver to India, which was more than was imported from all parts.

In the ſame year there was a treaty of alliance concluded between Great Britain, France, and the States General of the United Netherlands, for the guarantee of the treaty of Utrecht; and particularly for maintaining the order of ſucceſſion to the crowns of England and France, thereby eſtabliſhed; and for the demolition of the ports of Dunkirk and Mardyke.—Vol. iv. p. 39, &c. of the Collection of Treaties, 1732.

Article IV. “ For the entire deſtruction of the port of Dunkirk:—The great paſſage of
“ the new ſluice of Mardyke, which is forty-four feet wide, ſhall be demoliſhed from top to
“ bottom,—and the little ſluice ſhall be reduced to ſixteen feet in breadth.—The jettees and
“ faſcine work to be alſo demoliſhed:—it being hereby the intention of the contracting parties,
“ that no more jettees or faſcine work ſhall ever be again made on the ſhores of this
“ coaſt, for any port or haven at Dunkirk or at Mardyke, or any other place whatever within
“ two leagues from either of two places.—The demolition of the jettees or piers on both ſides
“ of the old canal or port of Dunkirk ſhall be entirely finiſhed and made level with the ground,

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“ all the way from the loweſt ebb as far as within the town of Dunkirk: and if there ſhall re-
“ main any pieces of Fort Blanc, Chateau Verd, and Bonne Eſperance, they ſhall be totally
“ laid flat to the ground.”

Never ſurely were articles worded in a ſtronger manner for the entire execution of this part of the treaty of Utrecht; and the three contracting parties alſo mutually agree to guarantee this as well as the other articles relating to the above-named order of ſucceſſion, by reſpectively contributing, viz. the two crowns each eight thouſand foot and four thouſand horſe; and the States four thouſand foot and two thouſand horſe, in caſe either of the allies ſhould be attacked by any other potentate, or to be diſturbed by inteſtine rebellions, or on any other pretext whatever.—And in caſe the ſaid ſuccours be not ſufficient, the allies ſhould agree in concert to furniſh a greater, and, if the caſe ſhall require it, they ſhall declare war againſt the aggreſſors, and aſſiſt one another with all their forces. (Articles VI. and VII.) But, by the ſeparate articles, the guarantee and ſuccours before-named are both limited to the territories of the reſpective allies in Europe only.

In this ſame year 1717, the South Sea Company's firſt annual ſhip, the Royal Prince, was laden and ſailed for La Vera Cruz.

About this time, and for ſome time backward, there were great complaints againſt the Swedes, for the unjuſt captures of many Britiſh merchant ſhips and their cargoes, though in time of peace: and for ſheltering Britiſh rebels, contrary to treaties, and particularly to that of the year 1700, with this very King of Sweden. Yet matters could not be ſettled during the life of Sweden's romantic King, Charles the Twelfth; but he being killed the following year at the ſiege of Frederickſhall in Norway, an accommodation was ſoon after concluded with his ſiſter and ſucceſſor, Ulrica Eleonora.

The Right of Britiſh Subjects to cut Logwood in the Bay of Campeachy, fully ſtated.

The matter of the right of Britiſh ſubjects to cut logwood, or, as the Spaniards term it, Campeachy Wood, came again this year on the carpet.—See the year 1662. The then-Lords Commiſſioners of Trade and Plantations having, in a repreſentation to his Britannic Majeſty, aſſerted and proved beyond contradiction, the right of his ſubjects to cut logwood in the Bay of Campeachy. This was occaſioned by the Spaniſh Ambaſſador Extraordinary, the Marquis de Monteleoné, having delivered a memorial againſt the Britiſh ſubjects ſettlement in the iſle of Triſte, and on and near the Laguna di Terminos in the province of Jucatan, and Bay of Campeachy, where they continued to cut logwood:—declaring, “ That, if, in the ſpace of
“ eight months, they do not leave the ſaid place, they ſhall be conſidered and treated as pi-
“ rates.”—That board repreſents to his Majeſty, “ That ſince a trade of ſo great importance
“ to our navigation, and the American colonies, is in danger of being loſt, we have
“ again carefully peruſed the books and papers in our Office, and have received from
“ the merchants and others the fulleſt information we can hope to obtain, which hath
“ taken up much time. And we now humbly crave leave to lay before your Majeſ-
“ ty the paſt and preſent ſtate of this trade, with the arguments that formerly engaged
“ your Majeſty's royal predeceſſors to protect and ſupport the ſame: to which we ſhall
“ add, ſome obſervations, and the reaſons that induce us to conclude, your Majeſty's
“ ſubjects have now as full and ample a right to this trade as to any other liberty or privilege

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1717 "that has been allowed by the crown of Spain, and enjoyed by them, by virtue of any treaty whatſoever.

"Firſt, Logwood is one of the productions of the province of Jucatan, where the Spaniards are poſſeſſed of San Franciſco de Campechy, its capital town and port, which has been thrice taken by the Engliſh, and of two other inland towns, Merida and Valladolid, having but few inhabitants: but the reſt of the province, before the" Engliſh "logwood-cutters were ſettled, was in a manner wholly deſolate and uninhabited. It is however allowed, that the Spaniards had, from time to time, cut wood in ſeveral parts near their own ſettlements: but, during the hoſtilities committed in the Weſt Indies before the year 1667, they deſerted that employment, being frequently interrupted by the privateers, both by ſea and land; who, by degrees, becoming acquainted with the coaſt, and with thoſe parts where the wood grew, that were moſt remote from the Spaniards, they at laſt fell into the trade, and laid the foundation of their future eſtabliſhment near Laguna di Terminos, and to Triſte and Beef Iſlands.—For, notwithſtanding the treaty of Madrid, in the year 1667, concluded by the Earl of Sandwich, was principally intended to adjuſt our commerce with Spain in Europe, yet a general, firm, and perfect amity being thereby concluded, it was conſtrued to extend to America as well as to Europe; wherefore many of the Britiſh privateers were then induced to quit their former courſe, and to ſettle with the logwood-cutters in Laguna di Terminos: ſo that in the year 1669, their numbers were conſiderably increaſed, and great quantities of wood were tranſported both to Jamaica and New England.

"The American treaty, for reſtraining depredations in thoſe parts, concluded in the year 1670, encouraged ſeveral others of the privateers or ſeamen to fall in with this employment of cutting wood, to which it was now generally ſuppoſed they had a right by the ſaid treaty.

"And Sir Thomas Lynch, then governor of Jamaica, tranſmitted to the lords of the council his reaſons for encouraging this trade, viz.

"I. That the Engliſh had done ſo for divers years.

"II. It was in deſolate and uninhabited places.

"III. That it ſeems a poſſeſſion granted by the American treaty.

"IV. It might give a right to ſeclude the Dutch and French, if we ſhould break with Spain.

"V. The Spaniards had not, to that time, made any complaints of it.

"VI. This employ makes the reducing of the privateers more eaſy.

"VII. And, that it will employ one hundred ſail of ſhips annually, and bring in more to his Majeſty's cuſtoms and the nation's trade than any colony the King hath.

"Although, at firſt, they found the logwood by the ſea-ſide, they were afterwards forced to go four or five miles up into the country for their refreſhment, where they planted Indian proviſions, and built houſes, to keep themſelves from the ſun and rain.—That in all the time of their working, they had never ſeen any Spaniards, or other perſon, although they had gone ſix or ſeven miles further into the country, to kill deers, &c.—That Sir Thomas Lynch, governor of Jamaica, in 1672, wrote all this to the Earl of Arlington, Secretary of State; and that this kind of poſſeſſion is held in the Weſt Indies to be the ſtrongeſt that can be, viz. felling of wood, building of houſes, and clearing and planting the ground.—That the depoſitions of many Engliſh concerned in this logwood trade were, in ſubſtance, as follows, viz.

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“ That our King's ſubjects have been uſed, for ſome years, to hunt, to fiſh, and to cut logwood, in divers bays, iſlands, and parts of the continent, not frequented or poſſeſſed by any of the ſubjects of his Catholic Majeſty, and without any moleſtation.—Which cutting of logwood there, had been approved of by the committee of the King's privy council: which allowance gave freſh vigour to the logwood-cutters; although about that time the Spaniards began to interrupt them, and to diſpute their right to that liberty which they had ſo long quietly enjoyed. For it is an undoubted fact, that from the publication of the treaty of 1667, until about two years after the concluſion of the American treaty, in the year 1670, the logwood-cutters had never been diſturbed in the leaſt either directly or indirectly. Nor does it appear, that the Spaniſh governors took any umbrage at, or made any complaint about it; much leſs did they pretend to an excluſive right, or that it was contrary to the laws of their commerce. That the Engliſh who were ſettled at the Laguna di Terminos, in reſentment for the Spaniards having taken two Engliſh ſhips which had logwood on board, ſeized on a Spaniſh bark at the ſaid Laguna, bound to Tabaſco: yet the governor of St. Franciſco de Campeachy, in vindication of the firſt hoſtilities of the Spaniards, complained of by Sir Thomas Lynch, in the year 1672, took not the leaſt notice of thoſe Engliſh ſhips having logwood, nor of our cutting logwood, nor of our being for ſome years ſettled on the ſaid Laguna; nor did he aſſign any other reaſon for making thoſe repriſals, but our taking the ſaid Spaniſh bark.—That the Engliſh having been in poſſeſſion of the Laguna di Terminos prior to the American treaty, in the year 1670, and the ſeventh article running as follows:—It is agreed, that the King of Great Britain ſhall have, hold, and always poſſeſs, in full ſovereignty and propriety, all the lands, countries, iſlands, colonies, and other places, be they what they will, lying and ſituate in the Weſt Indies, or in any part of America, which the ſaid King of Great Britain or his ſubjects now hold and poſſeſs; inſomuch, that they neither can nor ought hereafter to be conteſted or called in queſtion for them upon any account, or under any pretence whatſoever.—That by the Queen Regent of Spain's Cedula, in June 1672, declaring ſuch to be pirates who ſhould make invaſion, or trade without licence in the ports of the Indies, it does not appear that cutting of logwood was then eſteemed an invaſion.—Yet, by virtue of this Cedula, it was at length carried to that height, that if our ſhips had but any logwood on board, they were confiſcated without remedy; although the ſaid Cedula was inconſiſtent with the American treaty, and made, *ex poſt facto*, after the ratification of that ſolemn treaty.—That although in 1680, the Spaniards violently diſlodged our logwood-cutters from the ſaid iſland of Triſte and Laguna di Terminos; yet, in the year 1682, our trade to and from thoſe parts was greater than ever.—That, excepting two or three months after the aforeſaid aſſault in 1680, it is well known to the Spaniards, that we have been ever ſince poſſeſſed of thoſe parts where we cut logwood.—That a clauſe in the firſt article of the treaty of commerce, at Utrecht, determines this conteſt relating to the cutting of logwood, beyond all poſſibility of diſpute for the future, viz. after the confirmation and ratification of the American treaty of 1670, it follows:

“ Without any prejudice, however, to any liberty or power which the ſubjects of Great Britain enjoyed before, either through right, ſufferance, or indulgence.

“ If therefore this comprehenſive clauſe (which relates only to the Weſt Indies) confirms, ſecures, and re-eſtabliſhes thoſe liberties which the ſubjects of Great Britain enjoyed in America before the treaty in 1670, it neceſſarily follows, that they having then enjoyed the liberty of cutting logwood without any interruption, (as hath been fully proved) either

“ through

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1717 " through right, ſufferance, or indulgence, they are again entitled by this (Utrecht) treaty " to the ſame liberty, in as plain and expreſs words as can be uſed or imagined. And that " your Majeſty may be more fully apprized of the importance of this trade, the ſame will be " effectually demonſtrated by the following account of the quantities of logwood imported " ſince the war, viz.

" In the year 1713, two thouſand one hundred and eighty-nine tons, fifteen hundred " weight. In 1714, four thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy-eight tons, fourteen hundred " weight. In 1715, five thouſand eight hundred and ſixty-three tons, twelve hundred weight; " and in 1716, two thouſand and thirty-two tons, ſeventeen hundred weight; *i. e. communibus annis*, (or one year with another) three thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-one tons; " which cannot be computed at leſs than ſixty thouſand pounds per annum, though the price " at preſent be reduced from forty pounds to ſixteen pounds per ton: whereas before your Ma- " jeſty's ſubjects were ſettled there, it was worth one hundred pounds per ton.

" Nor is this trade leſs neceſſary than beneficial to your Majeſty's dominions, by reaſon of " the great encouragement it gives to our ſeamen and ſhipping. Upon the whole, therefore, " we are humbly of opinion,

Firſt, " That the ſubjects of this your Majeſty's kingdom, for ſome years before, as well as " after the American treaty, in the year 1670, did enjoy an uninterrupted liberty of cutting " logwood in thoſe parts of the Bay of Campeachy not inhabited by the Spaniards; either " through right, ſufferance, or indulgence.

Secondly, " That the ſaid American treaty did eſtabliſh a right in the crown of Great " Britain to the Laguna di Terminos, &c. Thoſe places, at the time of the treaty, and for " ſome years before, being actually in the poſſeſſion of the Britiſh ſubjects.

Thirdly, " That the royal Cedula, iſſued out by the court of Spain, was a violation of " that treaty, foraſmuch as the carrying on the trade to the Laguna di Terminos was thereby " interpreted an invaſion, and the logwood cutters accounted pirates: and that your Ma- " jeſty's ſubjects having been, at leaſt, ſuffered to enjoy the liberty of cutting logwood, as " aforeſaid, before the concluſion of the American treaty (although your Majeſty ſhould not " inſiſt on your right to the Laguna di Terminos) yet that the ſame liberty is abſolutely grant- " ed and confirmed by the treaty of commerce made at Utrecht. And we do further think it " our duty to repreſent to your Majeſty, that although the ſaid Spaniſh ambaſſador ſeems to " declare, in his memorial, that no attempt ſhould be made to diſlodge your ſubjects ſettled " on the Laguna di Terminos, in a leſs time than eight months from the date of his ſaid me- " morial; yet they were diſlodged and taken priſoners in the ſame month the memorial was " delivered, as appears by ſeveral affidavits."

All which is humbly ſubmitted by

(Signed) SUFFOLK,
J. CHETWYND,
CHARLES COOKE,
J. MOLESWORTH,
D. PULTENEY,
M. BLADEN.

Whitehall, September 25, 1717.

1718 In March 1718, the South Sea Company's ſecond great annual ſhip was launched, and named the Royal George, in honour of his Majeſty King George the Firſt, the company's governor.

But

A. D. 1718. But a war with Spain breaking out in this ſame year 1718, an effectual ſtop was thereby put to that company's commerce to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, where their effects, factors, and ſervants were ſeized and detained, to the company's very great damage, who agreeable to their Aſſiento Contract ought to have had eighteen months time allowed them for the removal of their effects, &c. which the company's agent at Madrid repreſented, in very ſtrong terms, to the Cardinal Miniſter, whoſe anſwer was, That the company ſhould be indemnified whenever peace ſhould be concluded; yet the ſame was never effectually performed, and although this war was but of a ſhort duration, the company was nevertheleſs a conſiderable ſufferer by it, and towards the cloſe of this year, humbly repreſented to his Britannic Majeſty their various grievances, which were in ſubſtance, viz.

I. " That whereas in reſpect to the two Queen's ſhips, the Bedford and Elizabeth, laden " for the company's account, by virtue of two Cedulas granted by the King of Spain, in the " year 1714, the former to Carthagena, and the Elizabeth to Vera Cruz, yet the Bedford's " cargo was confiſcated, on the pretext of over-tonnage, although it afterwards appeared, upon " re-meaſurement, that its cargo was under the ſtipulated tonnage. Yet the obtaining a ſuſ" penſion of the ſale of that cargo by the Spaniſh officers, until the company ſhould have " time to appeal to Europe, coſt an exceſſive ſum to the ſaid Spaniſh officers, beſide the loſs " of their market, &c.

II. " That the cargo of the Elizabeth had an *alcavala*, or duty laid on it at Vera Cruz, to " a very great ſum; although the King of Spain had expreſsly ſpecified that it ſhould pay no " manner of duties, on condition that he," the Catholic King, " ſhould enjoy ten per cent. " out of the profits thereof: which impoſition he afterwards confirmed and extended to all " the company's future annual ſhips, though contrary to the forty-ſecond article of the " Aſſiento Contract.

III. " The King of Spain's ſuſpending the company's new ſhip, the Royal George, from " ſailing this year, after being richly laden with a cargo of near three hundred thouſand " pounds value, which was thereby much damaged, was a very great loſs to the company.

IV. " By laying exorbitant duties on the company's ſhips permitted to lade fruit at the " Canaries, for the Spaniſh Weſt Indies.

V. " By laying duties on the purchaſers of the company's negroes.

VI. " By conniving at, and permitting many negroes to be imported clandeſtinely by " others, contrary to the ſaid Aſſiento Contract.

VII. " By obſtructing the company's officers from lading homeward, either tobacco or " cocoa, likewiſe contrary to the ſaid Aſſiento.

VIII. " By falſe meaſuring of the company's negroes, and denying juſtice therein.

IX. " In delaying juſtice in law ſuits againſt the Spaniſh officers, for extorting exorbitant " fees for the negroes imported by the company.

X. " By obliging the company's factors at Panama to pay there the duties on ſlaves con" fiſcated and indulted; contrary to the uſuage of former Aſſientiſts.

XI. " For compelling the company's factors at Panama and the Havanna, to pay a duty " of ſix pieces of eight for the burial of each negro.

XII. " In denying the company's factors at Buenos-Ayres the lands ſtipulated by the " Aſſiento Contract, to be aſſigned them for breeding of cattle, proviſions, &c. and for their " negroes.

1718 XIII. " The extorting extravagant port charges there, for the company's ſhips, and the " obſtructing their purchaſing of goods there; with other abuſes at that port, and at Panama.

XIV. " The Spaniſh Guarda de Coſta ſhips ſtopping the company's Aſſiento ſhips, and " taking from them ſundry things not contraband."

For theſe and ſome other grievances and defects in the Aſſiento contract, the company prayed his Majeſty to procure redreſs, which he was graciouſly pleaſed to promiſe, when the differences with Spain ſhould be adjuſted.

N. B. By the ſeizure of the company's effects, on the breaking out of this war, they are ſaid to have been loſers above two hundred thouſand pounds, which was never after effectually made good.

In this ſame year, the Dutch colony at Surinam, in Guiana, are ſaid firſt to have begun to plant coffee; which was then ſaid to be much better than either the coffee of Martinico or Jamaica.

It was in or about this year, that Biſhop Huet, in his Memoirs of the Dutch Commerce, thinks that the Hollanders ſent annually to the countries within the Baltic Sea, no fewer than one thouſand, or one thouſand two hundred ſhips, to lade the bulky commodities of thoſe northern countries: with which they afterwards ſupplied many other parts of Europe; ſo vaſt then was, and in a great meaſure ſtill is their trade to Denmark, Sweden, Ruſſia, Pruſſia, Livonia, &c. within that ſea.

The ſelling and buying of chances and parts of chances of tickets, in the ſtate lotteries of Great Britain, being at this time in general practice, a clauſe in an act of Parliament, for continuing certain duties on coals and culm, &c. prohibited ſuch practices: and alſo all undertakings reſembling lotteries, or being on the foot of a ſtate lottery, were ſtrictly prohibited, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, over and above all penalties enjoined by former acts of Parliament, againſt private lotteries.

The Oſtenders ſtill continuing their trade to the Eaſt Indies, under the Emperor's protection and commiſſions, an act of the Britiſh Parliament, of this fifth year of King George, paſſed,—For the better ſecuring the lawful Trade of his Majeſty's Subjects to and from the Eaſt Indies; and for the more effectual preventing all his Majeſty's Subjects from trading thither under foreign Commiſſions. Whereby it was enacted, " That whereas it is of great " importance to the welfare of this kingdom, that the trade to and from the Eaſt Indies be " regulated according to acts of Parliament and the royal charters.—And that, particularly by " an act of the ninth of King William the Third, the ſaid Eaſt Indies ſhould not be viſited " nor frequented by any Britiſh ſubjects other than ſuch as might lawfully trade thither, " under the penalties therein ſet forth.—And that the goods laden from India ſhould, with" out breaking bulk, be brought to ſome port in Great Britain to be unladen.—Notwith" ſtanding which reſtrictions, and the proclamation of the year 1716, ſeveral Britiſh ſubjects, " not entitled under the ſaid laws, have preſumed to trade to India, in foreign and other " ſhips, to the diminution of his Majeſty's cuſtoms, and the trade of this kingdom —Where" fore the contraveners are hereby declared liable to all the penalties of the laws in being.— " And, moreover, the Eaſt India Company is hereby authoriſed to ſeize on the perſons of " all ſuch Britiſh ſubjects as ſhall be found within their limits, and to ſend them priſoners to " England.—And that all or any Britiſh ſubjects, acting under a commiſſion from any foreign " potentate, ſhall forfeit five hundred pounds for every ſuch offence." This act was further continued

A. D. 1718 continued by the fifth of George the Second, cap. xxix. for ſeven years from the firſt of May 1732, and to the end of the then next ſeſſion of Parliament.

A bill in the Britiſh Houſe of Peers, For continuing a Duty on the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, and for repairing of Dover Harbour, in this year 1718, met with much oppoſition there. The merchants alleged, that this harbour had, for many years paſt, been a burthen to the trade and navigation; although its ſituation was ſuch, that whenever the wind blows hard from the ſea, *i. e.* from ſouth-eaſt to ſouth-weſt, the entrance of the pier is ſo choaked with ſmall ſtones, waſhed in by the wind and ſea, that very often, at high water, a hoy of thirty tons cannot get in or out, and the packet boats are liable to the ſame misfortune. That the charges on our navigation, called Petty Port-charges, were ſo high, that a ſhip of two hundred and fifty tons paid each voyage thirty pounds ſterling, of which at leaſt ſix pounds five ſhillings was for the repair of this pier and harbour.—That the mouth of the pier is but one hundred feet in breadth, and the channel much narrower, occaſioned by a lodgment of ſtones: and at the pier heads the tide runs ſo ſtrong directly acroſs it, that it is both difficult and dangerous to get in or out, ſeveral ſhips having been loſt in attempting the ſame. That the execution of the act for this duty had already coſt upwards of twenty thouſand pounds, although it be much the ſame as before—Neither can it be made of any advantage to any but fiſhing-boats and ſmall ſhips or veſſels uſing the ſaid place. Yet the ſaid act was continued, though hitherto to very little purpoſe.

The pirates in the Weſt Indies, and eſpecially among the Bahama Iſlands, being at this time a great obſtruction and detriment to the Britiſh commerce; the King's ſhips, and the proclamation for their ſurrendering themſelves by a limited time, had the deſired effect, and the peaceable navigation of thoſe ſeas was reſtored.

In May 1718, new Louis d'Ors and new ſilver coins were coined in France, which were to paſs for conſiderably more than their intrinſic value, much to the detriment of the commerce of France; and all the old monies, heavier than this new coin, were called in. And to make this fooliſh and wicked ſcheme appear ſomewhat uniform, the prices of gold and ſilver bullion were hereby to be accommodated to it. Fooliſh it was, becauſe the monied part of the world were too wiſe not to take advantage thereof to the detriment of the ſtate; and wicked, as it brought great miſery upon many thouſands of individuals. And in the ſame month and year, the King, or rather the Duke Regent, by letters patent, ordained the capital of the Bank to conſiſt of one thouſand two hundred ſhares of one thouſand crowns per ſhare. Yet in the ſame year, the King took this Bank into his own hands, and publiſhed, "That he had paid "off all the proprietors of the ſaid one million two hundred thouſand pounds capital; which "ſum (as a further ſecurity for the future juſt management of this, now to be named, Royal "Bank) he had lodged with the general caſh thereof." Yet this ſuppoſed ſum was not in actual caſh, but only in actions of the Miſſiſſippi Company belonging to the King. This was a part of Mr. Law's ſcheme for bringing about an union of the Bank with that company, for the eaſier execution of his grand project of paying off the public debts by Moon-ſhine, *i. e.* by getting them ſubſcribed into this company.

It was no difficult matter for intelligent men to foreſee the ruin of the Bank, from the moment that it was denominated Royal, and to foretell, what ſoon after happened, the ruin of vaſt numbers of opulent and honourable families, not only (though principally) in France, but in other parts of Europe, raſhly venturing deep into this project, formed under an abſolute government, which, by a daſh of its pen, could undo every thing at pleaſure. When

1718 the old coins were thus called into the Mint, it was directed, "That there ſhould be permitted to be therewith brought into the Mint, two fifth parts in ſtate bills, becauſe," ſays this extraordinary edict, "the diſreputation of thoſe ſtate bills has proved an obſtruction to commerce and to the circulation of money." The other wiſe reaſon for this edict was, "That by thus ſtamping an higher value on the gold and ſilver coins of France, gold and ſilver from other countries would be brought thither in greater abundance." The new-coined and over-valued crowns of ſix livres were now ordered to be paid and received at that price in the Bank. Yet all this was reverſed towards the end of the following year, by arrets, which gradually reduced the ſaid new gold and ſilver coins to very near their intrinſic value; as the court ſaw the vaſt detriment which the enhancing the nominal value of the new coins had done to the crown as well as to commerce. Four millions per annum were allotted for the intereſt of ſuch public debts (being one hundred millions) as had been already ſubſcribed into the Miſſiſſippi Company; and, for a further allurement, that company had the entire farm of tobacco granted to them for nine years. Whereupon, that company began immediately to tranſport great numbers of artificers, planters, labourers, and ſoldiers to Louiſiana, and a great ſtir and buſtle was artfully made therein, for further alluring of people to become adventurers in the ſtock of this company, already arrived at the price of one hundred and twenty per cent.

By a ſtatute made in this fifth year of King George the Firſt, cap. xviii. For recovering the Credit of the Britiſh Fiſhery in foreign Parts, and for better ſecuring the Duties on Salt: it was found, that the allowances granted by former laws relating to the duties on ſalt, upon exportation of fiſh, much exceeded the duty itſelf on ſalt uſed in curing the ſaid fiſh. For remedy whereof, it was now enacted, "That the curers of fiſh for exportation ſhall, inſtead of all former allowances, be permitted to uſe either foreign or Britiſh ſalt, without paying any duty, excepting the cuſtom on importation of the foreign ſalt: and that ſalt intended to be uſed in curing of fiſh ſhall be warehouſed, and the proprietor to make oath of the quantity, and that it is intended for curing of fiſh for exportation only.—And, after the fiſhing ſeaſon, the remaining ſalt to be again warehouſed, and the proprietor to give an account of the quantity of fiſh exported, on which the ſalt was uſed, and the remaining ſalt ſhall be delivered over to other perſons, for the ſame end:—Perſons not giving true accounts upon oath, ſhall forfeit forty pounds," &c.

Then follow the allowances to be made by collectors of the ſalt-duty to the exporters of fiſh, viz. on pilchards, cod, ling, and hake, (wet or dry) ſalmon, white and red herrings, and dried ſprats, certain allowances therein ſpecified, either by the barrel or the hundred weight, or elſe by the number of fiſh, with their ſize, &c. which it is not neceſſary to ſpecify in this place: it not being our intent to particulariſe every law relating to the regulation of merchandize; but only to take notice of any great or remarkable alteration, like this of the allowances on ſalted fiſh exported.

1719 The iſle of St. Lucia in the Weſt Indies has, at ſeveral times been inhabited by both Engliſh and French planters at the ſame time: in or about this year 1719, the Mareſchal D'Etrees ſent a colony thither; but our ambaſſador at Paris remonſtrated againſt it with ſuch ſpirit and ſucceſs, that the French court ſent orders to evacuate that iſland for the preſent.

For the further execution of Mr. Law's wicked ſcheme of drawing in the numerous proprietors of the national debts of France to be paid with the Miſſiſſippi ſtock and Royal Bank notes; he was, in the beginning of the year 1719, made Director-general of that Bank, in the

1719 the ſame year, creating, in different months, no fewer than one thouſand millions of livres, *i. e* between forty and fifty millions ſterling, in new bank notes; leſs (ſays the royal arret) not being ſufficient for the various operations of his Royal Bank. Although in fact this ſum was more than all the banks in Europe did or could circulate.

In the mean time, the more to inveigle mankind, Law perſuades the Regent to unite the French Eaſt India Company to this new Miſſiſſippi or Weſtern Company. The preamble to this edict ſhews the then very ill ſtate of their Eaſt India Company's affairs, viz.

“ That notwithſtanding the ſums of money, ſhips, &c. beſtowed on the Eaſt India Company from time to time, and its many privileges and immunities ſince its firſt erection, in the year 1664; yet, inſtead of increaſing its commerce, it had totally abandoned its navigation, and was now about to ſell its excluſive privileges to ſome private perſons for certain allowances; although they might as well have made their commerce profitable to their proprietors and to the kingdom, as the Eaſt India Companies of other nations have done.—That although the original fund was not large enough, yet their directors injudiciouſly laviſhed it away; borrowing money afterwards at ten per cent. intereſt. Nay they even paid five pounds per cent. per month for the intereſt of the bullion they procured for their eaſtward cargoes, which ſwallowed up all the profits of the voyage.—That King Louis the Fourteenth ſtill continued his kindneſs to that company: but the Eaſt Indians complaining that the company did not pay either principal or intereſt of their juſt debts, and that they had not ſent one ſhip to Surat in ſixteen years time, they being greatly in debt there, from whence cottons and almoſt all the ſpices and drugs of India and Arabia are brought; the ſubjects of France, to their immenſe loſs, are compelled to buy of ſtrangers thoſe and other Indian wares, not only for home conſumption, but alſo for carrying on the trades of Senegal and Guinea; though at treble the prices they would otherwiſe have coſt. Neither is their trade to China better conducted than that to India. For retrieving therefore the commerce and honour of France in India, by paying the company's debts (of many millions) there, the King hereby nullifies the privileges of that company, and unites them to this Weſtern or Miſſiſſippi Company, which will thereby be much ſtrengthened.—Thus, having before joined the Senegal Company to the ſaid Weſtern one, this newly-conſolidated company will have the four quarters of the world to trade in.” And then it ſubjoins what mighty matters they will effect, thus united, for the advancement of commerce, the breeding of pilots and ſailors, and the general increaſe of navigation, &c. “ For theſe cauſes we have thought proper to unite thoſe companies, and have granted this now united company the abſolute excluſive commerce from the Cape of Good Hope eaſtward, to all the reſt of Africa, and to Perſia, India, China, Japan, and the iſles, even to the Streights of Magellan and Le Maire: they hereby enjoying all the forts, iſles, &c. of the old company, and paying all their debts.” How different has the condition of the French Eaſt India Company ſince been from what it was at the time we are conſidering.

“ Moreover,” ſays the King's edict, “ beſide the hundred millions of public debts, already ſubſcribed into the Weſtern Company's capital, there ſhall now be a ſubſcription, in ready caſh, of twenty-five millions of new actions, each to conſiſt of five hundred and fifty livres. And that this newly united company ſhall henceforward be called the India Company.

In July 1719, twenty-five millions more of ſtate bills were ſubſcribed into this new India Company's capital, which was by this time run a great way above par; and, by the vaſt number of adventurers in that ſtock, the dirty ſtreet called Rue Quinquempoix, was daily crouded

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1719 beyond meaſure. We may here remark, that a great part of the firſt ſtock of this company was ſubſcribed by the King and government alone; which, by the mad running up of the ſtock, was afterwards ſold out at one thouſand per cent. and upwards, and thereby put near two hundred millions into the King's coffers: the ſame was practiſed by Mr. Law on the company's own behalf, thereby enabling them to puſh their ſchemes yet further.

In Auguſt 1719, for the further promoting of ſtock-jobbing, the laſt fifty millions of India ſtock had every ſhare ſplit into one hundred ſhares, which brought in the very dregs of the people to be adventurers: whereupon the ſtock roſe to five hundred per cent. which again fell to four hundred and forty-five, on the bare rumour of the Sieur Law's indiſpoſition, and roſe again to ſix hundred and ten per cent. on his recovery.

In the ſame month, the King's arret grants the company the general farm of all the revenues, and prolongs their excluſive term to the year 1770: in conſideration whereof, the company agrees to lend the King no leſs than twelve hundred millions of livres, or about fifty millions ſterling, for paying off all the public debts. For the ſaid general farm, the company agreed to pay fifty two millions yearly, being three millions and a half more than the Sieur Lambert paid, from whom the King now took this farm, although he had ſix years to run in his grant. Out of which fifty-two millions the company was to retain annually thirty-ſix millions, as the intereſt of the ſaid twelve hundred millions lent to the King, for which vaſt ſum they were to take ſubſcriptions at three per cent. In the mean time, the bank was ordered to iſſue out twenty-five millions, in their notes, to the India Company, to be ſent to Louiſiana, inſtead of coin, for carrying on an extenſive commerce there: a wretched means for that end, in lieu of caſh. The company at the ſame time agreed to pay the King fifty millions, for the ſole privilege of the coinage of money, for nine years to come.—By another arret, the public creditors were permitted to take actions, or ſhares of India ſtock, in payment of their ſeveral debts: and thus the public debts were all paid off.—The people of France eaſily ſwallowed the bait, fondly believing all the fine ſtories which Law and his emiſſaries artfully gave out; and the ſtock, in a few weeks more, ran up to twelve hundred per cent. when one hundred and fifty millions were added to their capital, by three ſeveral ſubſcriptions, at one thouſand per cent. for enabling them to make good their loans to the King: which one hundred and fifty millions were permitted to be ſplit into ſuch ſmaller parts as they ſhould take out ſubſcriptions for; whereby the market in Rue Quinquempoix was well ſupplied.

A falſe appearance of an unuſual plenty of money was now obſerved at Paris, whither crowds of ſtrangers reſorted from all, or moſt parts of Europe, to ſhare in this trade: ſo that all things roſe in price, and lands near Paris were ſold at fifty years purchaſe; and a wiſe purchaſe it was to ſuch as ſold out their ſtock at twelve hundred per cent. which they very properly termed realizing their ſtock. By ſuch means Mr. Law's credit was arrived at the higheſt pitch; his levee was crouded with perſons from moſt parts of Europe, preſſing for ſubſcriptions, which now bringing in ſo much caſh to the company, they were enabled to lend the King three hundred millions more, at three per cent. Many were the arts made uſe of for keeping up the price of the now unweildy ſtock; ſuch as, an arret to enable the company to employ part of their capital for the improvement of manufactures, fiſheries, &c.—Alſo for improving their tobacco farm; for ſupplying the King with all the hemp he ſhould want for his navy; and many other devices too tedious to enumerate.—The King, moreover, engaged, not to erect any other company in France but this; and the company, on their part, engaged not to take in any more new ſubſcriptions; (this was neceſſary for keeping up the prices of the for-

mer

A. D. 1719 mer ones) nor to increaſe their capital ſtock. The payments for the new ſubſcriptions were ten in number, each at a month's diſtance; but the new ſubſcriptions ſoon made the old ones to fall, for want of money to pay in on theſe laſt; the firſt payment of which laſt new ones was currently ſold at two hundred to three hundred per cent. profit, and yet the old ones were equally good as thoſe of the laſt ſubſcription: but the quantity of the capital ſtock, being now three hundred millions, made the old ſubſcriptions fall in price. The company, therefore, for keeping them up, declared they would pay nine hundred per cent. for them, which immediately raiſed them to twelve hundred per cent. and the laſt ſubſcriptions were about thirteen hundred per cent. Now three hundred millions of that ſtock, at the price of twelve hundred per cent amounts to three hundred and ſixty thouſand millions of livres, or about or near eighteen thouſand millions ſterling: which ſum is, perhaps, near one hundred and eighty times as much as all Europe contained of current caſh, ſuppoſing it to amount to one hundred millions ſterling: for, as to what is ſhut up in banks, and particularly in the bank of Amſterdam, ſaid by ſome to amount to thirty-ſix millions, though others doubt of its being ſo much, it is not properly the current coin of the country, though it anſwers in commerce as well as if it were, being but a mere depoſit of credit.—Yet it is confeſſed to be very difficult to arrive at a juſt diſtribution of the ſaid ſuppoſed one hundred millions of current caſh amongſt the ſeveral nations of Europe, more eſpecially as we have not met with any former attempt for ſuch a proportional diſtribution thereof, by any author whatever.—Yet, although with regard to ſome countries of Europe, we can do nothing more than conjecture, we ſhall, however, though with diffidence, venture at it in round ſums, viz.

Britain and Ireland, — —	£. 16,000,000
France, — — —	18,000,000
The Seventeen Provinces of the Netherlands —	12,000,000
Germany, Hungary, and Switzerland, —	9,000,000
Spain, — — —	8,000,000
Portugal, — — —	6,000,000
Italy, Sicily, and Venice, — —	10,000,000
Turkey in Europe, — — —	8,000,000
Ruſſia, — — —	6,000,000
Poland, — — — —	4,000,000
Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, — —	3,000,000
	100,000,000

So that the utmoſt we think we can make or reaſonably call Europe's running or current caſh, amounts to one hundred millions ſterling; and poſſibly many may conjecture, we have allowed moſt nations, and eſpecially the northern ones, too much, and ſome perhaps too little. Our judicious readers will not be ſtartled at our allowing Spain and Portugal ſo ſmall a currency of caſh, who ſupply Europe with both ſilver and gold, after what has been ſaid in our Introduction; nor for allowing France ſo much, when the annual expence of that kingdom is duly conſidered, as well as that of Britain and Ireland: the other nations, herein mentioned, may be variouſly reaſoned upon with reſpect to the quantum of their caſh, from various conſiderations: as;

Firſt, From the quantity of their commerce and manufactures.

Secondly,

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1719 Secondly, From the numbers of their people.

Thirdly, From their ſhipping.

Fourthly, The number and magnitude of their trading cities, &c.

From the beginning of November 1719, till about the middle of December following, the French India or Miſſiſippi ſtock was in its meridian glory: during which time, more eſpecially, and for ſome time before and after, the city of Paris was crowded with ſtrangers, and with foreigners from different nations, who haſtened thither for dealing in this ſtock. So that it was currently believed, there might then reſide at Paris half a million of ſtrangers more than uſual, and that twelve hundred new coaches were ſet up. Nothing ſcarcely to be ſeen but new and ſplendid equipages, new houſes, and finery in apparel. Lodgings ſcarcely to be had for money, and the higheſt prices given for proviſions, &c. in that city. Yet, in a few more months after, the very reverſe of all this was ſeen to be the miſerable condition of both city and country.

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament of the fifth year of King George, cap. xx. in the year 1719, For ſettling certain yearly Funds payable out of the Revenue of Scotland, to ſatisfy the public Debts of that Kingdom,—and to diſcharge the Equivalents claimed on its behalf, &c. it was enacted, "That for obviating many doubts and difficulties, which the Commiſſi-" oners of the Equivalent have found too hard for them to ſettle, ariſing from the doubtful " and various conſtruction of the fifteenth article of the union of the two kingdoms, the " ſum of two hundred and forty-eight thouſand five hundred and fifty pounds nine pence half-" penny, ſhall be a capital ſtock, transferable, attended with an annuity, or annual fund, of " ten thouſand pounds out of the exciſe and cuſtoms of Scotland, as alſo ſix hundred pounds " per ann. for charge of management, out of thoſe revenues. The King is hereby impowered " to incorporate the proprietors thereof, who ſhall have perpetual ſucceſſion, &c. Yet the ſaid " ſtock is to be redeemable by Parliament." Which ſtock remains to this day transferable, and its directors meet weekly at their office in London, being thirteen in number; eleven reſiding in London, and two at Edinburgh: its charter is dated the eleventh of George, in the year 1724, on the twenty-firſt of November. They pay their proprietors four per cent. per annum.

By this ſame ſtatute, "two thouſand pounds per annum, out of the ſaid revenues of cuſ-" toms and exciſe in Scotland, was allotted for ever, to be wholly applied towards the encour-" aging and protecting the fiſheries and ſuch other manufactures and improvements in Scot-" land as may moſt conduce to the general good of the united kingdom, according to the te-" nor and true meaning of the ſaid fifteenth article of the union. Provided, however, that " upon payment by Parliament of forty thouſand pounds the ſaid annuity of two thouſand " pounds ſhall ceaſe and determine."

The irredeemable debts of England being at this time thought a dead weight on the public, the Miniſtry and Parliament were extremely deſirous to get rid of as many of them as they could, at a reaſonable rate: a bargain was therefore ſtruck in this ſame year 1719, with the South Sea Company, whereby, in the firſt place, the blank pay tickets and the prizes of the lottery of the year 1710, which were irredeemable annuities for thirty-two years from 1710, were now to be turned into redeemable principal ſums at five per cent. intereſt, by an act of Parliament of the fifth of King George, For redeeming the Fund appropriated for the payment of the Lottery Tickets, which were made forth for the Service of the Year 1710, by a voluntary Subſcription of the Proprietors into the capital Stock of the South Sea Company, &c.

A. D. 1719 &c.—It was hereby, in ſubſtance, enacted, "That, whereas the nation at preſent pays one "hundred and thirty-five thouſand pounds per annum for twenty-three and three quarters "years to come, at Chriſtmas 1718, to the proprietors of that lottery:

	£.	s.	d.
1. They were now to have an offer of eleven and a half years purchaſe in South Sea ſtock	1,552,500	0	0
2. And they being one year and a quarter in arrear, they had an offer of ſtock for the ſame, being	168,750	0	0
Total South Sea ſtock propoſed to be given,	£. 1,721,250	0	0
3. And the Government propoſing to make, in all, an increaſe of two million five hundred thouſand pounds to the company's capital, by that company's agreeing to advance the reſidue in money, for the public ſervices, the ſame would be	778,750	0	0
	£. 2,500,000	0	0
The intereſt of which laſt ſum, at five per cent. would be	125,000	0	0
To which add, for charges of management	2000	0	0
So there remained eight thouſand pounds yearly ſaved, (as they then termed it) for the diſpoſition of Parliament, which ſaving they made out to be worth two hundred thouſand pounds	8000	0	0
	£. 135,000	0	0

And as the Company's General Court, in December 1718, had ordered an increaſe of ten ſhillings per cent. to the dividends on their capital for the three ſucceeding laſt years, over and above the two and a half per cent for each half year, allowed by the public, in order to keep up the old dividend of ſix per cent. per annum; the propoſed to be increaſed capital of two million five hundred thouſand pounds, ſhould alſo enjoy that benefit, which for one year and a half would be thirty-ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds. This laſt ſum was propoſed to be deducted out of the before-named ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty pounds.

	£.	s.	d.
Nevertheleſs, many proprietors of the lottery 1710, refuſed to accept of thoſe conditions: ſo that of the ſaid one hundred and thirty-five thouſand pounds, there was only ſubſcribed into the South Sea Company	94,329	12	0
Which, at twelve years and three quarters purchaſe, made in capital ſtock	2,202,702	8	0
And, in that proportion, the Company was obliged to advance only	544,142	0	0
So that the total capital added to the Company by this ſcheme, was but	1,746,844	8	10

1719 And the company's allowance from the government, for their proportion of the before-mentioned thirty-ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds, was twenty-ſix thouſand two hundred and two pounds thirteen ſhillings and four pence.

Laſtly, As two million five hundred thouſand pounds was to two thouſand pounds, ſo was one million ſeven hundred and forty-ſix thouſand eight hundred and forty-four pounds eight ſhillings and ten pence (the real augmentation of the company's ſtock) to one thouſand three hundred and ninety-ſeven pounds nine ſhillings and ſix pence, the real annual ſum due from the public, for charges of management for the ſaid additional capital. Whether, inſtead of thus reducing a ſhort temporary irredeemable debt, by an augmentation of the principal national debt, that ſhort irredeemable term might not rather have been ſuffered to run out, may not, upon the whole, have been more eligible, as it might have been a pattern for the further cultivation of national frugality, is ſubmitted to the judicious reader's conſideration.

Thus, however, the South Sea Company's capital ſtock was, from and after Chriſtmas 1718, increaſed to eleven million ſeven hundred and forty-ſix thouſand eight hundred and forty-four pounds eight ſhillings and ten pence, and their whole annuity to five hundred and eighty-ſeven three hundred and forty-two pounds four ſhillings and five pence. By this act alſo the whole South Sea capital was made redeemable, on one year's notice, after Midſummer 1723, on repayment of their capital. This tranſaction with the public unfortunately laid a foundation, together with the ſad example of the Miſſiſippi ſtock, for the madneſs of the ſucceeding year 1720, of which we are, by and by, to give an account. In the mean time, in July 1719, by way of prelude, the South Sea Company opened a ſubſcription for the ſale of five hundred and twenty thouſand pounds of their ſtock, part of the before-mentioned five hundred and forty-four thouſand one hundred and forty-two pounds and ten pence added to their capital, which they now ſold at one hundred and fourteen per cent. whereby they gained ſeventy-two thouſand eight hundred pounds.

In this ſame year 1719, a bill was brought into Parliament, For rendering the laws concerning the importation of naval ſtores from the Britiſh American plantations more extenſive, by extending it to all ſorts of timber from thence. For, whereas in our trade thither, it ſometimes happens, that the crops of tobacco, ſugar, &c. fall ſhort, many ſhips, in that caſe, are obliged to come to Great Britain dead-freighted; and ſome remain there a whole ſeaſon, waiting for the next crop: it was therefore imagined, by the Houſe of Commons, that if encouragement were given for bringing timber, &c. from our plantations, our ſhips would be ſure of a lading; by which regulation, the demand from our northern colonies for Britiſh manufactures of all kinds would be greatly increaſed, and their people diverted from further attempts on manufactures of their own, which might interfere with thoſe of Britain and Ireland.—But the people of the northern colonies were ſo ſurpriſed and diſappointed, on account of certain clauſes put into that bill, that, rather than they ſhould ſtand part of it, they were very glad to have it dropped altogether. Such, for inſtance, as

“ That none in the plantations ſhould manufacture iron wares of any kind whatever, out of any ſows, pigs, or bars whatſoever; under certain penalties:”—By which clauſe, ſays an ingenious author, on this occaſion, in behalf of the colonies, no ſmith in the plantations might make ſo much as a bolt, ſpike, or nail; whereby the colonies muſt have been brought into a miſerable condition; the ſmith being, above all other trades, abſolutely neceſſary in all other employments there. Amongſt the reſt, that of ſhip-building would have hereby been utterly deſtroyed,

A. D. 1719 deſtroyed, although by that article they make a great part of their returns for the purchaſe of Britiſh manufactures.

The Houſe of Peers added another clauſe, "That no forge, going by water or other work "whatſoever, ſhould be erected in any of the ſaid plantations, for the making, working, or "converting of any ſows, pigs, or caſt-iron, into bar or rod-iron, upon pain, &c."—This ſecond clauſe, ſays our ſaid author, muſt have ruined all the iron-works in the colonies, to the great loſs of their proprietors, and have given the French a fair handle to tempt them into their ſettlements which join to ours.

The chief oppoſers of the manufacture of iron in our American plantations, were the proprietors of our iron-works at home: and our author adds, what is probable enough, or rather within bounds, "That the iron manufacture of England, which is deemed the third of the "kingdom, employs two hundred thouſand perſons.—That the waſte and deſtruction of the "woods in the counties of Warwick, Stafford, Worceſter, Hereford, Monmouth, Glouceſter, "and Salop, by theſe iron-works, is not to be imagined.—And that if ſome care be not taken "to preſerve our timber from theſe conſuming furnaces, there will not be oak enough left to "ſupply the royal navy and our mercantile ſhipping.—That within theſe ſixty years, Ireland "was better ſtocked with oak timber than we now are. But the iron-works, ſince ſet up "there have, in a few years, ſwept away the wood to that degree, that they have not ſmall "ſtuff enough left to produce bark for their tanning, nor timber for common uſes: inſo-"much that, at preſent, they are forced to have bark from England, and building timber "from Norway, &c. and to ſuffer their large hides to be exported untanned to Holland, Ger-"many, &c.—That about twenty thouſand tons of iron are annually imported to England "from foreign parts, over and above what is made at home, for which we pay ready money; "and at twelve pound per ton comes to two hundred and forty thouſand pounds, paid annu-"ally to foreigners; and the boards and other timber which we take of them comes to two "hundred thouſand pounds more. Whereas, our own plantations would be paid for their "iron and timber in our manufactures; thereby evidently bringing a double benefit to the "nation.—That they have iron-ſtone all along the continent, from the ſouthernmoſt part of "Carolina to the northernmoſt part of New England, in great plenty; and no part of the "world abounds more with prodigious quantities of wood, nor with more rivers and ſtreams. "That the Swedes have laid near twenty-five per cent. additional duty on their iron: and "that the interruptions of our trade in the Baltic had greatly diſtreſſed our manufacturers for "want of iron.—That by the naval ſtore laws, now in force, which comprehend only pitch, "tar, and turpentine, ſuch great quantities thereof are produced and imported from our plan-"tations, as to enable us to export it in conſiderable quantities to the Streights, Spain, Por-"tugal, Holland, Bremen, and Hamburg.—That the taking of timber and iron, as well as "hemp and flax, from our own plantations, would employ a vaſt many ſhips and people.— "That iron, in particular, is a commodity of univerſal uſe, and certain in all parts of the "world, and therefore as much to be valued as gold or ſilver.—That the Dutch ſupply Por-"tugal, the Streights, and Turkey, with great quantities of iron; and had we a full ſupply "of it from our plantations, we might not only ballaſt our ſhips with it, but export great "quantities to thoſe countries, and even to Africa and India.—That hemp, another moſt ne-"ceſſary naval ſtore, may hereafter be ſo enhanced by the Czar of Ruſſia, from whoſe ports "we are principally ſupplied with it, as to attempt, like the Swedes, to oblige us to receive "it by his own ſhipping, and at his own prices.

Finally,

1719 Finally, Our greateſt ſecurity and riches flow from our American plantations: and were "they encouraged to raiſe all the naval ſtores we want, how greatly would our riches be in-"creaſed as well as our navigation, people, and power." The ſame author, however, concludes, "That negro-ſlaves in our plantations ſhould not be permitted to work in manufac-"tures there, (as certainly many do) but to keep them to their original intent for planting "and drudgery: and alſo that the increaſe of woollen, &c. manufactures there, interfering "with thoſe of our own, ſhould be reſtrained as much as poſſible."

Theſe are points of the laſt importance to our commercial intereſts, wherefore we have enlarged the more upon them, in ſeveral parts of this work.

In this ſame year 1719, a convention was renewed and enlarged between his Majeſty of Great Britain and the free and imperial city and republic of Hamburg, concerning the trade of herrings, &c. viz.

Article I. "Hamburg grants permiſſion for importing freely to the ſaid city, herrings "caught on the Britiſh coaſts, upon paying the ſame duties of entry as are uſually paid for "Flemiſh or Dutch herrings.

II. and III. "The Britiſh herrings ſhall be brought into warehouſes, and ſhall be opened "in the ſame manner as thoſe of Holland are.

IV. "The ſenate to appoint two appraiſers and two packers, who ſhall take an oath of fide-"lity every year.

V. "If the proprietors or their factors come in perſon, they ſhall have liberty to vend their "herrings to any inhabitants indifferently: and if they cannot diſpoſe of them in eight days, "to the inhabitants, they may afterwards ſell them to whomſoever they will, or may ſend them "whitherſoever they pleaſe.

VI. "When the proprietors would ſend their herrings to factors, they ſhall be at liberty to "chuſe their factors either from among the laudable Engliſh Company (*i. e.* of Merchant-"Adventurers) reſiding in the town, or elſe among the burghers.

VII. "His Britannic Majeſty's ſubjects ſhall always enjoy the ſame privileges and advan-"tages in the herring trade as are or ſhall be granted to the ſubjects of the States of the United "Netherlands.

VIII. "His Britannick Majeſty's ſubjects may alſo bring to Hamburg, ſalmon, ſtockfiſh, "cod, and all other ſorts of fiſh, either dried, ſmoaked, or in barrels, paying the cuſtomary "duties. And, in like manner, the inhabitants and burghers of Hamburg ſhall have free li-"berty to trade, according to their ancient cuſtom, to the provinces of the Britiſh king-"doms; and may carry their merchandize thither, and truck or exchange the ſame for thoſe "ſorts of fiſh and other goods.

Done at Hamburg, 8th February, 1719."

It was at this time computed, that from the year 1711 to 1719, both years included, being nine years, there had been exported from England to the Eaſt Indies, in foreign ſilver bullion the ſum of three million ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix thouſand and five pounds, which on a medium is one year with another four hundred and twenty thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-ſeven pounds annually.

In the ſame year 1719, one Captain Barlow was ſent out by certain private adventurers, to make the diſcovery of a north-weſt paſſage to China, &c. through Hudſon's Bay. But this proved a moſt unfortunate attempt; for neither he nor any of his company were ever heard of.

Yet

A. D. 1719 Yet part of the wreck of his ſhip was ſaid to be found in that Bay, in the latitude of ſixty-three degrees north.—Ellis's Voyage to Hudſon's Bay, in the year 1748, p. 78-9.

About the cloſe of this year, a pamphlet appeared with a propoſal for the South Sea Company's making a ſettlement in the country of Guiana, in South America, upon a plan which the anonymous author alleges he had laid before King William thirty years before. His pamphlet is entitled, An Hiſtorical Account of the Voyages and Adventures of Sir Walter Raleigh, from whom the author ſays he is deſcended. But, in our humble opinion, this ſuppoſed kinſman of that great man could not have touched upon any part of his adventures which does ſo little honour to him as that particular wild ſcheme; of which we have ſaid enough in its place.—Next to the project of a north-weſt paſſage, this unaccountable whim of a ſettlement in Guiana has, at different times employed the moſt of our ſpeculative ſchemers to the leaſt purpoſe.

In this fifth year of King George the Firſt, a patent was granted to Sir Thomas Lombe, for the ſole and excluſive property for fourteen years, of that wonderful machine for Silk-throwing, ſometime before erected by his brother on the river Derwent at Derby, by mills, which work three capital engines. This amazingly grand machine contains twenty-ſix thouſand five hundred and eighty-ſix wheels, and ninety-ſeven thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-ſix movements, which work ſeventy-three thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-ſix yards of organzine ſilk thread every time the water wheel goes round, being thrice in one minute, and three hundred and eighteen million five hundred and four thouſand nine hundred and ſixty yards in one day and night. One water wheel gives motion to all the other movements, of which any one may be ſtopped ſeparately, without obſtructing the reſt.

One fire-engine conveys warm air to every individual part of this vaſt machine, containing in all its buildings half a quarter of a mile in length. The model of it is ſaid to have been taken by Mr. Lombe, from the original in Piedmont, under the diſguiſe of a common workman, he having ſecretly drawn its plan on paper, and then made his eſcape to England. Theſe engines have ſaved a great deal of money to the nation, which they formerly paid for organzine or thrown ſilk to the Piedmonteſe, altogether with ready money. And, that we may take in all this matter together, the fourteen years being elapſed before Sir Thomas Lombe could make ſufficient advantage thereof, upon his application to Parliament in the year 1732, by an act of the fifth of King George II. cap. viii. "fourteen thouſand pounds was "granted to him from the public, as a conſideration for the eminent ſervices he has done the "nation, in diſcovering, introducing, and bringing to full perfection, at his own expence, "a work ſo uſeful and beneficial to this kingdom.—Provided, however, that his Majeſty may "and ſhall direct proper perſons to view the ſaid three engines, and to take an exact model "thereof, to be depoſited in ſuch place as he ſhall appoint, to ſecure and perpetuate the ſaid "art for the advantage of the kingdom." This ſtatute mentions "the great obſtruction to "this undertaking received by the King of Sardinia, in prohibiting the exportation of the raw "ſilk which theſe engines were made to work."

1720 We are now to enter upon the year 1720; a year remarkable beyond any other which can be pitched upon by hiſtorians for extraordinary and romantic projects, propoſals, and undertakings, both private and national; as well reſpecting commercial concerns, as the great internal intereſts of the two moſt potent kingdoms of Europe:—and which, therefore, ought to be had in perpetual remembrance, not only as being what never had its parallel, nor, it is to be hoped, ever will hereafter; but, likewiſe, as it may ſerve for a perpetual memento to the

1720 legiſlators and miniſters of our own nation, never to leave it in the power of any, hereafter to hoodwink mankind into ſo ſhameful and baneful an impoſition on the credulity of the people, thereby diverted from their lawful induſtry.

We have ſeen, under the preceding year, to what extravagant lengths the once famous Mr. Law had led the Duke Regent of France, in order to get clear of the public incumbrances, by giving the unhappy proprietors of the French national debts what in the end proved little better than moonſhine. And we are ſorry to be obliged to add, that we have in part alſo already ſeen our own Britiſh Parliament and Miniſtry approaching too near (though not intentionally) to ſuch unjuſt and viſionary ſchemes for leſſening the Britiſh national debts, by liſtening to the propoſals of crafty projectors, calculated for deceiving and hoodwinking the proprietors of thoſe debts, by altering or changing the names, ſhape, and poſition of them, too much reſembling what is vulgarly called ſlight of hand, rather than for any ſolid diminution of thoſe incumbrances. As if any other method whatever, conſiſtently with national juſtneſs and honour, could affect a leſſening of our incumbrances, but a clear and inviolable Sinking Fund, the conſequence,

Firſt, Of the frugal ſavings from the reduction of intereſt.

Secondly, Of all needleſs expence, more eſpecially in times of ſettled peace; and,

Thirdly, From the increaſe of foreign commerce proportionably increaſing the public revenue. All other ſchemes being an impoſition upon and a diſgrace to a nation enjoying liberty and property.

Other methods were, however, at this time adopted; to the ruin of many honourable and till then wealthy families, to the advancement of many low and obſcure perſons and families, and to the great temporary detriment of our commerce.

The grand point, as already obſerved, which the Britiſh government had now in view was the reduction of what is called the irredeemable annuities, created at divers times, in the reigns of King William and Queen Anne, moſt of them for ninety-nine, and ſome for ninety-ſix and eighty-nine years, and others for ſhorter terms; amounting in all to very near eight hundred thouſand pounds per annum. And the then managers of the South Sea Company having been ſo ſucceſsful in taking in the greateſt part of the annuities of the lottery of 1710, the miniſtry encouraged the directors of that company to make their propoſals for reducing them all into a redeemable ſtate.

It is now become unneceſſary to relate a great deal of what paſſed on this ſubject. In January, that company at firſt propoſed to the Houſe of Commons to give three millions five hundred thouſand pounds to the public, for the privilege of taking in all the ſaid irredeemable debts, and alſo the redeemable debts then at the Exchequer and Bank, moſtly bearing five per cent. either by purchaſe from the proprietors or by ſubſcription, into their capital ſtock.—This project exciting the jealouſy of the Bank of England, the directors of the latter company on the very ſame day offered above five millions for the ſame privilege. This rivalſhip proved in effect the bane of the whole plan: for a ſecond propoſal of the South Sea Company amounted to no leſs than ſeven millions five hundred and ſixty-ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds, in caſe all thoſe debts ſhould be ſubſcribed, and in that proportion for any part of them; and alſo propoſed further, to pay, to the uſe of the public, one year's purchaſe of all the long irredeemable annuities as ſhould not be brought into their capital. The Bank made a ſecond propoſal, more advantageous to the public in ſeveral reſpects, and therein obliged themſelves to give one thouſand ſeven hundred pounds Bank-ſtock for every hundred pound

A. D. 1720 irredeemable long annuity. Let any one of but common underſtanding conſider one moment, how it could be poſſible for either company to effect what they now propoſed, ſo as not to be loſers themſelves, without egregiouſly deceiving and injuring the proprietors of theſe debts.—Was it not therefore moſt unaccountable in any Britiſh Parliament and miniſtry, to give encouragement to a propoſal of a nature pregnant with conſequences ſo very obvious, and of ſuch a pernicious tendency?

It ſeems, that upon the King's arrival from Hanover, in November 1719, this ſcheme was laid before the miniſtry by the managers of the South Sea Company; who, fluſhed with their late ſucceſs, carried their aims ſo far as to incorporate all the funds of the Bank, Eaſt India Company, and the Exchequer with their own capital. But, although that was not reliſhed, the very rumour of ſome ſuch ſcheme raiſed their ſtock to one hundred and twenty-ſix per cent. at the ſhutting of the books for Chriſtmas 1719. In concluſion, the South Sea Company's laſt propoſal was accepted in Parliament, and a bill brought in, ſixth of George I. For enabling that company to increaſe their preſent capital ſtock and fund, by redeeming ſuch public debts and incumbrances as are therein mentioned; for raiſing money to be applied for leſſening ſeveral of the public debts and incumbrances; for calling in the preſent Exchequer bills remaining uncancelled; and for making forth new bills, in lieu thereof, to be circulated and exchanged, upon demand, at or near the Exchequer.

The oppoſers of this bill in Parliament, in vain urged what afterwards proved but too true: “that it was calculated for the enriching of a few, and the ruin of many.—That it countenanced the pernicious practice of ſtock-jobbing, thereby diverting the proper genius of the people from trade and induſtry.—That the artificial raiſing of South Sea ſtock ſo high as its then exiſting price, whilſt the bill was then depending,” viz. to three hundred and nineteen per cent. “was a dangerous bait for decoying the unwary to their ruin, by a falſe proſpect of gain, and to part with what they had gotten with labour and induſtry for imaginary wealth. That it would give foreigners an opportunity of perhaps trebling the great ſums they already poſſeſſed in our funds, and would thereby drain the kingdom of its treaſure, when they ſhould realize their ſtock.—That a national bargain ſhould wiſely be made with more advantage to the public than to individuals; but this ſcheme was quite the reverſe: ſince, if South Sea ſtock ſhould be kept up at three hundred per cent. its old members would gain above thirty millions, whilſt the public was only to avail themſelves of but a quarter part of that ſum.—That although neither of the propoſals of the two rival companies were fit to be received, yet that of the Bank was fairer, as they declared plainly what they would give the long annuitants in their ſtock. But if, nevertheleſs, the South Sea Company's propoſals ſhould be accepted, the riſe of their ſtock ſhould be limited, for preventing the pernicious effects of ſtock-jobbing in ſo high a degree as was likely to happen.”—To all which, and much more ſaid againſt the ſcheme, it was anſwered by the miniſterial advocates, “That neither the miniſters nor the company could foreſee this great riſe of the ſtock: for, had its price remained as it was when the bargain was firſt ſtruck, viz. at one hundred and thirty-ſeven per cent. the public would have been the greater gainer.—That the miniſtry had nothing in view but the eaſing of the nation of part of its preſent heavy load of debt, and the putting the remainder into a method of being gradually diſcharged.—And, laſtly, that it was but reaſonable, that the company ſhould enjoy the profit of the riſe of ſtock procured by their own prudent conduct, &c.”

It

1720 It is to little purpoſe now to enlarge on the methods then taken by the South Sea Company's managers, for enabling them to execute ſo vaſt a ſcheme. Such as, the making their dividend warrants at Chriſtmas, 1719, to carry intereſt till Chriſtmas 1720, ſums under twenty pounds only excepted: their obtaining an act of this ſame ſeſſion, For making forth new Exchequer bills, not exceeding one million, at a certain intereſt; and for lending the ſame to the South Sea Company at an higher intereſt, &c.—Their taking in four money ſubſcriptions, for the ſale of their ſtock which they propoſed to gain by the ſcheme: which large ſums were particularly intended to enable the company to pay off ſuch of the redeemable debts as the reſpective creditors ſhould chuſe to take in principal money, inſtead of ſubſcribing the ſame into that company; and alſo for paying the above-named great ſum to the public for the privilege of this ſcheme; which ſum was deſtined by this act to be applied, in the firſt place, to pay off all ſuch debts not included in the company's new capital, as carried five per cent. intereſt, and afterwards to pay off part of the company's capital at five per cent. They were alſo hereby empowered to make calls of money on their members, or to open books for ſubſcriptions, or to grant annuities redeemable; or by ſuch other methods for raiſing money as their general courts ſhould direct; ſuch as loans on contracts, bills, bonds, or obligations under their common-ſeal, or on the credit of their ſtock, which was to be hereby reduced to four per cent. redeemable at Midſummer 1727: and the additional allowance for management was to be in proportion to that allowed for their old capital.—Not leſs than one million to be paid the company at any one time: but their trade and privileges were to continue for ever.

The debts propoſed to be taken in were:

	£.	s.	d.
I. Irredeemable long annuities, per annum, — —	666,821	8	3½
—— Ditto, ſhort annuities, — — —	127,260	6	1
Making together, —	794,081	14	4½

The long annuities originally did not, in general, coſt the proprietors above ſixteen years purchaſe; ſo that the proprietors had been already overpaid their principal, and with legal intereſt alſo; and yet, after ſo many years elapſed, their preſent market-price was conſiderably more than what was originally paid for them at the Exchequer; and therefore they were now deemed an incumbrance on the public equal to their current value, and were to be juſtly conſidered in that light only.

For theſe long annuities the company obliged themſelves to allow the proprietors twenty years purchaſe; and fourteen years purchaſe for the ſhort annuities: but the grand fallacy was, that the company was not limited in the price they were to put on their ſtock to be given to them: whereas, on the contrary, the Bank's ſecond propoſal obliged themſelves to offer one thouſand ſeven hundred pounds bank-ſtock for every one hundred pounds per annum of long annuities, and in like proportion for the ſhort ones.

	£.	s.	d.
Total, ſo valued, was — — —	15,118,072	11	0

II. The redeemable debts at the Exchequer and Bank, carrying five per cent. intereſt, amounted to eleven millions ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty pounds eleven ſhillings and three-pence three-farthings; and thoſe at four per cent. to four millions ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand eight hundred and twenty-one pounds fifteen ſhillings and nine-pence halfpenny. So that if all the public debts aforeſaid, amounting to thirty-one millions ſix hundred and ſixty-four thouſand five hundred and fifty-four thouſand

pounds

A. D. 1720 pounds eighteen ſhillings and one penny farthing had been ſubſcribed, the South Sea Company's capital ſtock would have been increaſed to the ſum of forty-three millions four hundred and eleven thouſand three hundred and ninety-nine pounds ſix ſhillings and eleven-pence farthing.

The South Sea directors, who were alſo, by commiſſion, truſtees for taking in the public debts, opened their firſt money ſubſcription on the fourteenth of April, for the ſale of two millions of their ſtock at three hundred per cent. the market-price that day being three hundred and twenty-five per cent. Some of the directors ſeemed to diſlike this method, as copying too cloſely the Miſſiſſippi proceedings: yet the junto of managers judged it adviſeable, in order to keep up the price of ſtock. And ſuch was the concourſe of perſons of diſtinction to that ſubſcription, that it was increaſed to two millions two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, and thereupon it ſoon ſold for double the price of the firſt payment, which was ſixty pounds, and the ſtock roſe to three hundred and forty per cent.

Their next maſter-piece was, in a general court, where now were ſeen many of the higheſt rank and quality, to vote a dividend of ten per cent. in ſtock for the Midſummer half-year, 1720, as well to the new ſubſcribers as to the old capital. This dividend was one great cauſe of the enſuing calamities, by occaſioning too high an opinion of the value of the ſcheme.

At the ſame general court it was reſolved, to grant money loans on ſtock, as far as five hundred thouſand for four months, at five per cent. ſecretly enlarged to nine hundred thouſand pounds. There were alſo at this time large premiums given by the agents of the managers for the refuſal of ſtock at very high prices. More money was afterwards lent out both on ſtock and on ſubſcription-receipts. On the other hand, the directors were conſtantly ſolicited for more ſubſcriptions, loans, &c. And to ſo great a height was the frenzy already got, that the bare reſolution of the court of directors, on the twenty-eighth of April, to receive the irredeemable annuities into their ſtock, influenced many of the proprietors of thoſe annuities actually to depoſit their annuities at the South Sea Houſe, and implicitly to ſubſcribe the ſame, before they knew what terms they were to have for them: ſome of whom, neverthelefs, were the loudeſt afterwards in the clamours againſt the directors

On the thirtieth of April, a ſecond money ſubſcription was taken for one million of ſtock, at four hundred pounds per cent. price; and this ſubſcription was, in the ſame manner, increaſed to one million five hundred thouſand pounds.

On the nineteenth of May, the directors declared the terms for the irredeemables ſubſcribed to be, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. The long annuities they valued at thirty-two years purchaſe, and at that rate gave them ſeven hundred pounds ſtock for each one hundred pounds annuity, at three hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. its value being —	2,625	0	0
And they gave them in bonds and money to the amount of —	575	0	0
The total, as they were thus valued, was —	3,200	0	0
II. To the other long annuities, called fourteen per cents. they gave for each ninety-eight pounds per annum, the ſame ſtock, valued as above —	2,625	0	0
And in bonds and money — — — —	511	0	0
Total —	3,136	0	0

And in this proportion for any greater or leſſer ſum of thoſe annuities.

III. To

A. D. 1720 III. To the ſhort irredeemables, called nine per cents. which, as well as the blank and prize tickets of the lottery of 1710, they valued at ſeventeen years purchaſe; and, at that rate, had the following terms, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
The nine per cents. for every ninety pounds per annum, had three hundred and fifty pounds ſtock, at three hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. —	1,312	10	0
And in bonds and money — — — —	217	10	0
Total —	1,530	0	0
Prizes of the lottery of 1710, for every one hundred pounds per annum they had four hundred pounds ſtock, at three hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. is	1,500	0	0
And bonds and money — — — —	200	0	0
Total —	1,700	0	0
Blank tickets of the lottery of 1710, for every ninety-eight pounds per annum, three hundred and fifty pounds ſtock, at three hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. is — — — — —	1,312	10	0
And in bonds and money — — — —	353	10	0
Total —	1,666	0	0

Conſidering the frenzy of this time, it muſt be confeſſed, that theſe terms to the irredeemables were tolerably fair, had the ſubſcribers been allowed the immediate diſpoſal of the ſtock now allotted to them, which was far from being the intention of the junto. We muſt here alſo remark, in favour of the directors, that they gave ſix days time to theſe firſt ſubſcribers to declare their acceptance or non-acceptance of the ſaid terms, ſtock however being then, *i. e.* twenty-fifth of May, above five hundred pounds per cent. was the bait for their acquieſcence. So that in this, and moſt of the other tranſactions relating to this great and unparalleled affair, the ſubſcribing parties, eſpecially in the former part of the madneſs, were equally acceſſary to their own future loſſes with the conducters of the ſcheme; all ranks and claſſes of people eagerly forwarding their own ruin, through an exceſſive thirſt of gain. For, the numerous dealers in South Sea ſtock and ſubſcriptions, by daily continuing to buy, in the hope of their ſtill riſing higher, of which riſe they themſelves were the principal cauſe, did undoubtedly lay a temptation in the way of the managers for ſtill growing more extravagant in the rates or conditions of their future ſubſcriptions.

The author of this work remembers diſtinctly, that further on in this ſummer, a certain director, (Mr. E—d—n, long ſince dead) being aſked by a gentleman at Garraway's coffee-houſe, whether the report was true, that the court of directors ſoon intended to open their third ſubſcription at one thouſand per cent.?—Mr. E——— facetiouſly replied, "Truly, gen-"tlemen ſeem to ſtrive to talk us into ſome ſuch price, whether we will or no."—This, nevertheleſs, was by no means a ſufficient vindication of the court of directors; who, as ſworn truſtees for the proprietors, ought to have either ſtopped the unreaſonable riſe of ſtock, or elſe have diſqualified themſelves, and by a public declaration to the world, have teſtified their abſolute diſapprobation thereof. Neither indeed was the Board of Treaſury, who framed the famous act, to be at all juſtified, for not laying effectual reſtraints therein againſt even the bare poſſibility of any unreaſonable riſe of ſtock.

The

A. D. 1720 The firſt ſubſcription of the irredeemable debts amounted to—

£. 427,340	18	9	of the annuities for long terms.
48,132	0	0	of nine per cent. annuities.
and 15,988	4	0	of the lottery of 1710.

By the daily riſe of South Sea ſtock, the fame and credit of the leading directors and managers roſe in proportion. Addreſſes were made to them from perſons of high rank; and, in teſtimony of miniſterial approbation, ſeveral of the directors had the hereditary honour of Baronet conferred on them. Yet, very ſoon after, there happened ſuch ſudden fluctuations in their ſtock, ſometimes even in the ſpace of a few hours, as might have given clear indications of its precarious value, notwithſtanding the various arts daily practiſed to keep it conſtantly riſing. For, though on the ſecond of June, it got up to eight hundred and ninety per cent. yet that vaſt price bringing many ſellers the day following to Exchange Alley (now become a ſecond Rue Quinquempoix) it fell before night to ſix hundred and forty; and yet the ſame evening roſe again to ſeven hundred and ſeventy. On the ſixth it was at eight hundred and twenty, but by the fourteenth fell to ſeven hundred and ten. Many were obliged to ſell out their ſtock, to enable them to make their ſecond payment on the firſt money ſubſcription: and ſome began to have their eyes opened by the judicious calculations of Archibald Hutcheſon, Eſquire, and others. Theſe alarming conſiderations obliged the managers to lend out great ſums of money on South Sea ſtock at four hundred per cent. Which loans anſwered a double purpoſe;

Firſt, By locking up ſo much ſtock, as was ſo pawned, and,

Secondly, By ſupplying the borrowers with the means of buying more.

So that, though the price of the ſtock was ſomewhat under eight hundred per cent. the Junto ventured ſo far out of their depth as to take a third money ſubſcription, for the purchaſe of ſtock at one thouſand per cent. in ten different payments of one hundred pounds each, for five millions of ſtock: crowds of people attending at the South Sea Houſe, loudly calling for a new ſubſcription, and even naming the price of one thouſand per cent. And, in a few days, their firſt payment of one hundred pounds roſe to four hundred pounds. Of the five millions now paid in for the ſaid firſt payment, the managers lent out in one day three millions, for ſupplying the ſtock market with caſh. A few days after the Midſummer ſhutting of their books, the price of South Sea-ſtock for the opening of them was at one thouſand per cent. and upwards, including the ten per cent. Midſummer dividend.

Whilſt South Sea-ſtock was thus in its meridian glory, the frenzy in part affected the other two great companies, by raiſing them greatly above their juſt value, viz. Eaſt India ſtock to four hundred and forty-five per cent. and Bank-ſtock to two hundred and ſixty per cent. This riſe was partly occaſioned by the ſellers out of South Sea-ſtock, and alſo out of the bubbles, (as they were juſtly termed) or numerous leſſer ſtocks, at very high prices; who thought their money ſafer in being inveſted in the two great companies ſtocks. The advanced prices of all which ſtocks, greater or leſſer, of every kind, were at this time, viz. about Midſummer 1720, computed to amount to about five hundred millions ſterling; or about five times as much as the current caſh of all Europe. And if the yearly rents of all the lands and houſes in Great Britain did not then exceed fourteen millions, and that the utmoſt value thereof (houſes and lands together) did not exceed ſixteen years purchaſe on an average, or two hundred and twenty-four millions of money; then here was above double the value of the fee-ſimple of all the immoveable property of the nation in this chimerical traffic; whilſt the

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1720 the real and ſubſtantial traffic of many of the dealers therein was for many months in a great meaſure ſuſpended, or at leaſt much neglected:

On the fourth of Auguſt, the ſecond ſubſcription of the irredeemable annuities was taken at the South Sea Houſe, viz.

	£.	s.	d.	
	125,392	17	6	long annuities.
	18,750	0	0	nine per cents.
And	14,906	6	0	of lottery 1710.

Firſt, The long annuities (all but the fourteen per cents.) had four hundred pounds South Sea-ſtock, and four hundred pounds in bonds and money for each hundred pounds per annum, the ſaid annuities being now valued at thirty-ſix years purchaſe.

Secondly, And for every ninety-eight pounds per annum of the fourteen pounds per cents. they gave four hundred and twenty pounds in ſtock, and one hundred and ſixty-eight pounds in bonds and money.

Thirdly, For every ninety pounds per annum of the nine per cent. annuities, they allowed two hundred pounds ſtock, being ſeventeen ſeven-ninths years purchaſe.

Fourthly, For every hundred pounds per annum of the prizes of lottery 1710, they gave two hundred pounds ſtock, and one hundred and fifty pounds bonds and money, which was ſeventeen one-half years purchaſe.

Fifthly, For every ninety-eight pounds per annum of the blank tickets of 1710, they gave two hundred and ten pounds ſtock, and thirty-five pounds in bonds and money, being likewiſe at the rate of ſeventeen one-half years purchaſe.

At the ſame time there was ſubſcribed fourteen millions three hundred and ninety-three thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight pounds of the redeemable debts, every hundred pounds being taken in or valued at one hundred and five, and, on the twelfth of Auguſt, (South Sea-ſtock being about nine hundred and ten per cent. the Midſummer dividend included) they declared their valuing ſtock at eight hundred per cent. for theſe redeemables ſubſcribed. But, although theſe redeemable-proprietors were about ſixteen thouſand perſons in number, they were not allowed the choice of withdrawing their ſubſcriptions, after the ſaid price was now declared; which made a moſt grievous clamour (ſoon after upon the fall of the ſtock) both in print and converſation.

Many ways were now found neceſſary by the Junto to keep up the price of South Sea-ſtock, after thus taking in the proprietors of the public debts at ſuch extravagant rates; ſuch as the giving credit for ſix months, at four per cent. intereſt, for the third payment of the firſt ſubſcription, and the ſecond payment of the ſecond money ſubſcription, in order to keep a plenty of caſh in the dealers hands, &c.

But of all the raſh proceedings of the managers, during the execution of their ſcheme, none proved more quickly fatal than their obtaining of the government, on the eighteenth of Auguſt, a *ſcire facias* againſt thoſe airy projects called bubbles, which, at this time, were become very numerous, and had greatly advanced in their prices, even after an act of Parliament of this ſame ſeſſion, cap. xvii. had paſſed for ſuppreſſing them, entitled, An Act for better ſecuring certain Powers and Privileges intended to be granted by his Majeſty by two Charters for Aſſurance of Ships and Merchandize at Sea; and for lending Money upon Bottomree;—and for reſtraining ſeveral extravagant and unwarrantable Practices therein mentioned, as well as of a royal proclamation for enforcing the laws againſt them: ſo that Exchange Alley, like the Rue Quinquempoix at Paris, was daily crowded from morning to night (as well as the coffee

A.D. 1720 coffee houſes) with dealers in thoſe bubbles; many of which, having obſolete and forfeited charters, under that pretext,

Firſt, Took large money ſubſcriptions for carrying on what they had no right to do.

Secondly, Others of them grafted new and additional projects on theſe obſolete charters, originally granted for very different purpoſes.

Thirdly, A third ſpecies of bubbles, and the moſt numerous, did not even pretend ſo much as to any ſuch obſolete charters, or other authority whatever.

It is indeed very true, that the traffic in theſe did greatly promote luxury, idleneſs, and extravagance in the middling and lower claſſes of people; diverting them from their wonted induſtry and frugality. But the great miſtake of the South Sea managers concerning thoſe bubbles was their belief that their traffic obſtructed the riſe of South Sea-ſtock; whereas, on the contrary, it was quickly found, that the trade in them was aſſiſting in keeping up the price of South Sea-ſtock: for, very many of the lower people, not being at firſt able to purchaſe South Sea-ſtock, ran greedily into the bubbles, and even into ſmaller ſhares or parts of them; and having ſoon gained conſiderably therein, they uſually or very often came afterwards into South Sea-ſtock and ſubſcriptions. And thus thoſe leſſer currents or rivulets were a conſtant ſupply to the great South Sea River: but this the managers did not perceive till it was too late.

It appeared, by an enquiry of the Houſe of Commons, in February preceding, that this humour of new projects or bubbles had been on foot for two or three years paſt; as alſo appeared by a petition in January 1718, for a charter for inſuring ſhips and merchandize, ſigned by near three hundred merchants and gentlemen, and that a million of money had been previouſly ſubſcribed for it. That another petition, about the ſame time, for a Grand Fiſhery Company, was ſigned by ſeven peers of the realm, and many merchants and gentlemen. A third petition was, in May 1719, by the (ſo called) Societies of the City of London for the Mines Royal, the Mineral and Battery Works, under certain obſolete charters of Queen Elizabeth and King James the Firſt, for mines, &c. for a like patent to inſure ſhips and merchandize, for which one million one hundred and fifty-two thouſand pounds had been ſubſcribed. Theſe were, in the main, the ſame perſons as thoſe in the before-named firſt petition: they petitioned a third time, on the eighth of January 1720, (N. S.) only as ſo many private gentlemen and merchants, dropping their claim by the before-named obſolete charters, and were in the end ſucceſsful by their preſent name of the Royal Exchange Aſſurance Company; its capital conſiſting of five hundred thouſand pounds. That ſame day, another body of petitioners applied for a patent for inſuring ſhips and merchandize, with a ſubſcription of two millions, and were incorporated alſo in the end, by the name of the London Aſſurance Company. This laſt named company had at firſt two ſeparate ſubſcriptions, which were afterwards united. Its ſtock or capital at preſent conſiſting of thirty-ſix thouſand pounds ſhares, on each of which twelve pounds ten ſhillings was originally paid. This was the original riſe of the two very uſeful and flouriſhing inſurance corporations, who alſo are empowered to lend money on bottomree; and each of them afterwards obtained charters for inſuring from loſs by fire. Yet neither of them are by the before-quoted ſtatute, nor by their conſequent charters, excluſive in any reſpect relating to private perſons, who may and ſtill do enjoy and practiſe inſurance on ſhips and merchandize as formerly; but with reſpect to all other corporations they are both excluſive; excepting however the Eaſt India and South Sea Companies, 1720 Companies, both which corporations may ſtill continue to advance money, ſays the ſtatute, by bottomree on their own ſhips.

A third petition of a different body of people was preſented to the King, on the twenty-firſt of January 1720, (N. S.) for an inſurance charter, which did not ſucceed. And,

On the eighth of the ſaid month, three Engliſh peers, two biſhops, and an Iriſh peer, with many eminent gentlemen and merchants, petitioned the King, " That they might be in-" corporated for purchaſing and improving of forfeited and other eſtates in Great Britain.— " For granting annuities for lives: and for inſuring of lives:—Seeing," continues this petition, " this will unite, by intereſt, many of the King's ſubjects againſt the Pretender and his " adherents for ever. In order to which, ſeveral of the petitioners have ſent perſons into " Scotland for purchaſing the forfeited eſtates there, and have ſince, by a voluntary ſubſcrip-" tion to the Governor and Company of Undertakers for raiſing the Thames Water in York " Buildings, raiſed a joint-ſtock of one million two hundred thouſand pounds ſterling: upon " the credit of which eſtates they propoſe to grant annuities for and to inſure on lives; for " the benefit of ſuch of his Majeſty's ſubjects as are ſtreightened in their fortunes by the re-" duction of intereſt." But they did not deſire any excluſive charter. The ſame day alſo, another ſet of gentlemen in vain petitioned for the very ſame purpoſe.

When thoſe petitions for inſurance, &c. came to be referred to and conſidered by the crown lawyers, they were oppoſed by counſel on the other ſide, the grand fiſhery ſcheme alone excepted, viz. The inſurance petitioners, by the numerous friends of the private inſurers, and by the Amicable Society for a perpetual Inſurance on Lives, with Benefit of Survivorſhip; which ſociety, their counſel ſet forth, " was incorporated in the fifth year of Queen Anne, in " the year 1706, conſtituting any number of perſons, not exceeding two thouſand, to be a " body-politic, for raiſing a joint-ſtock, for the relief of widows and orphans, by granting " policies on lives, with annual payments during ſuch lives; on the deceaſe of which lives " a certain ſum is paid as a dividend to the proprietors of ſuch policies:" and alleging, " that " theſe petitions for inſurances would prejudice their intereſts."

The petitioners for purchaſing of the forfeited eſtates were adviſed by counſel to withdraw their petition, as they might ſafely tranſact all they wanted to do, by virtue of the powers of a charter of the twenty-ſeventh of King Charles the Second, For raiſing the Thames Water in York Buildings; which charter theſe petitioners had purchaſed of the old patentees for ſeven thouſand pounds, together with all the benefits of a private act of Parliament of the ſecond of William and Mary, For Incorporating the Proprietors of the Water Works in York Buildings, and for encouraging, carrying on, and ſettling the ſaid Water Works.

The two firſt-named petitions for inſurance were, as already obſerved, approved of, and the crown lawyers reported, That a fiſhery charter, under proper regulations, might be very beneficial to the nation. Which fiſhery had been further favoured by the following reſolution of the Houſe of Commons, on the twenty-ſeventh of April 1720, viz.

" That the undertaking propoſed to be carried on by the name of the Britiſh Fiſhery, " wherein the ſea ports and royal burghs are concerned, may be ſucceſsfully carried on, and " thereby prevent great ſums from going annually out of the nation; may ſecure a valuable " trade; and may, upon any emergency, furniſh ſeamen to man the royal navy: and there-" fore highly deſerves encouragement."

Nevertheleſs, no charter was at this time granted for the fiſhery; occaſioned by the improbability, if not impoſſibility, of any company's being able, unleſs an excluſive one, to carry on

a profitable

A. D. 1720 a profitable fiſhery. Since, if private undertakers, being on the northern coaſts, are not as yet able to beat the Dutch out of the fiſhery, it is highly improbable, that a Joint-ſtock Company, which is never ſo frugally managed as private adventurers do their own money, ſhould prove ſucceſsful. Of which we have a more recent proof at preſent, notwithſtanding the moſt unparalleled parliamentary encouragements.

The two Inſurance companies were both incorporated on the ſame day and year, viz. the twenty-fourth of June 1720, the ſtatute in favour of them having had the royal aſſent fourteen days before. " Each having power for purchaſing lands, &c. of one thouſand pounds " yearly: but no perſon can be either a director or proprietor of both companies at the ſame " time. Each company's capital not to exceed one million five hundred thouſand pounds.— " May make calls on their proprietors, without limitation.—May create bonds, under their " common ſeal, for advancing money on parliamentary ſecurity; but for not leſs than ſix " months time.—Each corporation to pay three hundred thouſand pounds for diſcharging the " King's civil liſt debts.—No other corporation ſhall inſure but theſe two.—Yet private in- " ſurers may act as before.—May be determined by the King's charter, if found inconvenient " to the public; in which caſe no other corporation ſhall ever be erected in their ſtead, with " the like privileges." Part of the ſaid three hundred thouſand pounds was afterwards remitted to each of thoſe two companies.

They both have very conſiderable capital ſtocks, and therefore may reaſonably be preſumed a greater ſecurity to our merchants than private inſurers can be fairly admitted to be, how juſt and honourable ſoever their principles and character, and how large ſoever their fortunes in general may be; a liſt being on this occaſion laid before the Attorney General of one hundred and fifty private inſurers who had failed but a few years paſt. It was then alſo urged in behalf of Inſurance-companies having large capitals, that the merchants of foreign nations in alliance or at peace with us would now probably be induced, in great numbers, to make their inſurances at London; and thereby bring an additional benefit to the kingdom. And as both the ſaid Inſurance-companies have continued punctually and inviolably to ſuſtain their credit and reputation, this juſt commendation of both of them fell naturally in our way.

The act of Parliament before-mentioned, for enabling the King to incorporate thoſe two Inſurance Companies, was alſo expreſsly for reſtraining ſeveral unwarrantable practices therein mentioned. " Several ſuch projects of different kinds having, ſince the twenty-fourth of " June 1718, been ſet on foot in London and other parts of the kingdom, as alſo in Ireland, " which manifeſtly tend to the common grievance of the ſubject; the contrivers whereof, " under falſe pretences of public good, have preſumed to open books for public ſubſcriptions " for the ſame, and have drawn unwary perſons to ſubſcribe large ſums to ſuch undertakings, " paying down only ſmall proportions thereof, which yet upon the whole do amount to very " large ſums; in many caſes acting as bodies-politic, by transferring of ſhares, &c. Others " acting under charters granted for quite different purpoſes, and others under obſolete char- " ters, become void by non-uſer or abuſer, &c.—Which dangerous projects do relate to " ſeveral fiſheries, &c. wherein the trade, commerce, and welfare of the people are concern- " ed."—For the ſuppreſſion and prevention of which miſchievous practices, it was enacted, " That, from and after the twenty-fourth of June 1720, all ſuch undertakings and attempts " ſo deſcribed as aforeſaid, and all other undertakings tending to the common grievance, and " all public ſubſcriptions, receipts, payments, aſſignments, and transfers for ſuch matters, " ſhall be for ever deemed illegal and void, and to be deemed public nuiſances, liable to ſuch

" fines

A. D. 1720 “ fines and puniſhments as the laws direct.—And perſons acting as brokers for others, or for “ themſelves, either in buying or ſelling, ſhall forfeit five hundred pounds, and ſhall be in- “ capable of acting afterward as ſuch. But this act ſhall not extend to undertakings ſettled “ before Midſummer 1718.” This clauſe ſaved harmleſs and entire ſeveral undertakings, though not incorporated, ſuch as, the ſeveral fire inſurance offices, and the ſeveral ſubſcriptions to the South Sea Company, &c.

“ Laſtly, The two inſurance corporations, hereby eſtabliſhed, are expreſsly reſtrained from “ lending money to the crown on parliamentary funds, except on the credit of acts of “ Parliament.”

The more to enforce this ſtatute, the King, on the very day he paſſed it, viz. on the eleventh of June 1720, iſſued a proclamation, ſtrictly enjoining the obſervation of the latter part of it relating to thoſe projects vulgarly called bubbles; in conſequence of which it might have been expected, that they would have all ſhrunk to their original nothing in a moment. For a few days, indeed, ſome check was given by this meaſure to that frantic traffic: yet, in the face of all authority, it ſoon revived and even increaſed more than ever, and whilſt they daily advanced in price, every one was a gainer, ſo that the lower claſe of people fell into luxury and prodigality, as well as their betters. From morning till evening the dealers therein, as well as in South Sea-ſtock, appeared in continual crowds all over Exchange Alley, ſo as to choak up the paſſage through it. Not a week-day paſſed without freſh projects recommended by pompous advertiſements in all the newſpapers, which were now ſwelled enormouſly, directing where to ſubſcribe to them. On ſome, ſix-pence per cent. was paid down; on others, one ſhilling per cent. and ſome came ſo low as one ſhilling per thouſand, at the time of ſubſcribing. Some of the obſcure keepers of thoſe books of ſubſcription, contenting themſelves with what they had got in the forenoon, by the ſubſcriptions of one or two millions, (one of which the author particularly well remembers,) were not to be found in the afternoon of the ſame day, the room they had hired for a day being ſhut up, and they and their ſubſcription-books never heard of more. On others of thoſe projects, two ſhillings and two ſhillings and ſix-pence per cent. was paid down; and on ſome few ten ſhillings per cent. was depoſited; being ſuch as had ſome one or more perſons of known credit to midwife them into the alley. Some were divided into Shares, inſtead of hundreds and thouſands, upon each of which ſo much was paid down, and both for them and the other kinds, there were printed receipts ſigned by perſons utterly unknown.

Perſons of quality of both ſexes were deeply engaged in many of theſe bubbles, avarice prevailing at this time over all conſiderations of either dignity or equity; the males coming to taverns and coffee houſes to meet their brokers, and the ladies to the ſhops of milliners and haberdaſhers for the ſame ends. Any impudent impoſtor, whilſt the deluſion was at its greateſt height, needed only to hire a room at ſome coffee houſe or other houſe near that alley, for a few hours, and open a ſubſcription book, for ſomewhat relative to commerce, manufacture, plantation, or of ſome ſuppoſed invention, either newly hatched out of his own brain, or elſe ſtolen from ſome of the many abortive projects of which we have given an account in former reigns, having firſt advertiſed it in the newſpapers the preceding day, and he might, in a few hours, find ſubſcribers for one or two millions (in ſome caſes more) of imaginary ſtock. Yet many of thoſe very ſubſcribers were far from believing thoſe projects feaſible: it was enough for their purpoſe that there would very ſoon be a premium on the receipts for thoſe ſubſcriptions; when they generally got rid of them in the crowded alley to others more credulous than

A. D. 1720 than themſelves. And in all events, the projector was ſure of the depoſit money. The firſt purchaſers of thoſe receipts ſoon found ſecond purchaſers, and ſo on, at ſtill higher prices, coming from all parts of the town, and even many from the adjacent countries: and ſo great was the wild confuſion in the crowd in Exchange Alley, that the ſame project, or bubble, has been known to be ſold, at the ſame inſtant of time, ten per cent. higher at one end of the alley than at the other end. Amongſt thoſe many bubbles, there were ſome ſo bare-faced and palpably groſs, as not to have ſo much as the ſhadow of any thing like feaſibility. The infatuation was at length ſo ſtrong, that one project was, in the newſpapers, advertiſed thus; For ſubſcribing two Millions to a certain promiſing or profitable Deſign, which will hereafter be promulgated.

We can well remember, one of thoſe named Globe Permits, which came to be currently ſold each for ſixty guineas and upwards in the alley, which nevertheleſs was only a ſquare bit of a playing card, on which was the impreſſion of a ſeal in wax, being the ſign of the Globe tavern in the neighbourhood, with the motto or inſcription of Sail Cloth Permits, without any name ſigned thereon, the poſſeſſors thereof being to be hereafter permitted to ſubſcribe to a new ſail cloth manufactory, projected by one who was then known to be a man of fortune, though afterwards involved in great calamities and diſgrace.

Theſe inſtances out of hundreds more that might be produced are ſufficient to diſplay the frenzy of the time; when the taverns, coffee houſes, and even victualling houſes, near the Exchange were conſtantly crowded, and became the ſcenes of incredible extravagance. The very advertiſements of thoſe bubbles were ſo many as to fill up two or three ſheets of paper in ſome of the daily newſpapers for ſome months. Yet, all men were not infatuated: and one advertiſement in a weekly newſpaper well enough burleſqued the then madneſs of men, in the following ſtrain. "At a certain (ſham) place, on Tueſday next, books will be opened for a ſubſcription of two millions, for the invention of melting down ſaw-duſt and chips, and "caſting them into clean deal boards, without cracks or knots!"

Before we return to the remainder of the execution of the grand South Sea ſcheme, we ſhall, as an uſeful warning to poſterity, here exhibit a more complete catalogue than any we have ſeen, of the ſtocks, ſubſcriptions, projects, or bubbles, of this unparalleled time, when their higheſt prices in Exchange Alley, before the fatal *ſcire facias* had (like the touch of Ithuriel's ſpear) reduced them all to their proper ſize and value.

GREAT CORPORATIONS.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.			HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
I. South Sea ſtock -	100	0	0	1000	0	0
Ditto firſt money ſubſcription, at three hundred pounds per cent.	120	0	0	750	0	0
Ditto, ſecond ditto, at four hundred pounds per cent. - -	80	0	0	600	0	0
Ditto, third ditto, at one thouſand pounds per cent. - -	100	0	0	440	0	0
Ditto, fourth ditto, at one thouſand pounds per cent. - -	200	0	0	245	0	0

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GREAT CORPORATIONS CONTINUED.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.		
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Eaſt India capital ſtock (three million two hundred thouſand pounds) - -	100	0	0		445	0	0
Bank of England (capital then five million five hundred and fifty-nine thouſand nine hundred and ninety-five pounds fourteen ſhillings and eight pence) -	96	13	5½		260	0	0
—This was the Bank's nominal or transferable capital: yet the government actually owed them no more than five million three hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten pence halfpenny (till the year 1722, when they purchaſed four millions of the South Sea Company) whereby one hundred pounds Bank ſtock, as due from the public, was now really no more than ninety-ſix pounds thirteen ſhillings and five pence halfpenny. So that all its advanced value muſt and did ariſe from the different profits of banking - -							
Royal African ſtock (old capital four hundred thouſand pounds, additional one, one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds) -	23	0	0		200	0	0
DOUBTFUL CHARTERS.							
II. Million Bank (five hundred thouſand pounds) - -	100	0	0		440	0	0
York Buildings Company (one million two hundred thouſand pounds) - -	10	0	0		305	0	0
Luſtring Company, ten thouſand ſhares, valued at one million two hundred thouſand pounds (not worth one farthing) - -	5	2	6	per Share	120	0	0

GREAT

DOUBTFUL CHARTERS CONTINUED.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	
Engliſh Copper Company -	5	0	0	per Share	105	0	6	per Share
Welch Copper Company, (worth nothing at all) - -	4	2	6	per Cent.	95	0	0	per Cent.
Royal Fiſhery Company (Nil)	10	0	0	Ditto.	25	0	0	Ditto.

N. B. The Hudſon's Bay Company's capital being ſo ſmall as one hundred and ten thouſand pounds was engroſſed by ſo few, that it was not known what its price was at that time.

DESERTED COMPANIES.

III. Obſerve alſo, That beſide the great legal companies, whoſe ſtocks were uſually tranſacted in 'Change-alley, there were, and ſtill are, ſome whoſe capitals are too ſmall to come thither, and do therefore vary but little in price, ſuch as, the New River Company; the London-bridge Water Company; the Shadwell, Hampſtead, Southwark, and Chelſea Water Companies. Alſo the Sun Fire-office Inſurance: alſo ſeveral obſolete joint-ſtock corporations, ſo far ſunk and deſerted, that their ſtock, at this time, bore no price at all; ſuch were the

Mine-Adventurers Company of England,
Sword Blade Company,
Frame-work Knitters Company, and
Charitable Corporation for Pledges.

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LOCAL AND PARTICULAR PROJECTS.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	
IV. For Local and Particular Purpoſes, viz.								
For making the river Douglas navigable - - - -	5	0	0	per Share	70	0	0	per Share
For freſh water brought to Liverpool - - -	10	0	0	Ditto.	20	0	0	Ditto.
Temple Mills braſs works -	10	0	0	Ditto.	250	0	0	Ditto.
Fiſh Pool, for bringing freſh fiſh by ſea to London (Sir Richard Steele's) - - -	..	..	..		160	0	0	per Share, before any money paid down.
Hamburg Company (for bringing commerce thither from Hamburg, and for a lottery there, one million five hundred thouſand nominal capital) -	15	0	0		120	0	0	per Cent.
Puckle's machine gun, called the Defence - -	4	0	0		8	0	0	for Ditto.
Another Hamburg ſubſcription, (Burges's) ineffectual.								
V. Projects or Bubbles, having neither charter nor act of Parliament to authoriſe them: none of which were under one million, and ſome went as far as ten millions: very many whereof are diſtinctly remembered by the author of this work, how ridiculous and improbable ſoever they may now ſeem to many not acquainted with the infatuation of that year, viz.								
The Orkney fiſhery - -	25	0	0		250	0	0	
Globe Permits, (for ſubſcribing ſome time or other to a project for a ſail-cloth manufacture -	..	..	..		70	0	0	
For building of ſhips to let to Freight - - - -	1	0	0	Ditto.	15	0	0	
For raiſing of hemp and flax at home - - -	0	2	6	Ditto.	1	10	0	
Another in Pennſylvania -	2	10	0		28	0	0	

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LOCAL AND PARTICULAR PROJECTS CONTINUED.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	
Improvement of land (Sir John Lambert's) - -	5	0	0	per Share	20	0	0	
For a whale-fiſhery (by ditto) -	0	10	0		3	10	0	
National Permits, for a fiſhery, (Geo. James's, fifty thouſand permits, at ſix pounds each) -	5	0	0	per Share	60	0	0	Each Permit, before any money paid down.
Salt to be made at Holyhead, two millions - -	5	0	0	per Share	15	0	0	
For ſettling on the Bahama Iſlands (ſix thouſand pounds had actually been paid in on this project, in which many eminent perſons were ſufferers, as appeared by their petition to Parliament, February 1723-4, but was rejected becauſe it would have brought endleſs petitions of that ſort, for redreſs of ſuch grievances) -	3	0	0	Ditto	40	0	0	
The grand fiſhery (ſo named) -	0	10	0	Ditto	5	0	0	
A Bottomree Company -	1	0	0	Ditto	3	0	0	
Weſtley's auctions (*i. e.* actions) for buying and ſelling of ſtocks	7	10	0	Ditto	100	0	0	
General Inſurance from fire, one million two hundred thouſand pounds - - -	0	2	6	Ditto	8	0	0	
Royal Exchange Aſſurance, five hundred thouſand pounds, valued at two million five hundred thouſand pounds - -	Sundry Payments.				250	0	0	per Cent.
London Aſſurance Company, thirty-ſix thouſand ſhares, twelve pounds ten ſhillings each, valued three million ſix hundred thouſand pounds, once -	Ditto				175	0	0	per Share

Some of the foregoing bubbles, we may ſee, were ſold at above ſix times the money paid in on the ſame: others very near as high, and all ſhamefully and madly raiſed. It would be endleſs to hunt for the prices of many more, which were the embrios of a few days, though

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1720 they drew in numbers of unwary perſons to their undoing. We ſhall therefore content ourſelves with exhibiting a bare liſt of them in the following catalogue, viz.

VI. Fisheries.
1. Cawood's North Sea fiſhery.
2. Britiſh fiſhery.
3. A royal fiſhery, for ten millions.
4—5. Two more Greenland, or whale fiſheries.
6. A grand American fiſhery.
7. Garraway's or Pillan's fiſhery.
8. The free fiſhery.
9. A coral fiſhery.
10. Wrecks to be fiſhed for on the Iriſh coaſt.
11. Another Greenland fiſhery.
12. Orkney fiſhery.

VII. Salt.
1. Another ſalt project, beſide the one already mentioned.
2. Rock-ſalt project.
3. Saltpetre to be made.
4. Saltpans in Holy Iſland two millions.

VIII. Insurances,
1. Sadler's Hall inſurance, afterwards united to the Royal Exchange ditto.
2. Inſurance of horſes and other cattle, two millions.
3. Inſurance and improvement of childrens fortunes.
4. Inſurance of houſes and goods in Ireland, with an Engliſh Earl at the head of it.
5. Inſurance of loſſes by ſervants.
6. Friendly Society for inſurances.
7. Britiſh inſurance, ſo called.
8. Shales's inſurance.
9. Inſurance againſt theft and robbery.
10. Ditto for inſuring of ſeamen's wages.

IX. Remittances of Money.
1. General remittance and inſurance of debts.
2. Stogden's remittances.

X. Water Companies.
1. An engine to bring freſh water into the town of Deal, in Kent.
2. A project to bring water by a new canal from St. Alban's to London.
3. Another from Rickmanſworth to London.
4. To make ſalt-water freſh.

XI. Sugar.
1. Refining of ſugar.
2. Bleaching or whitening of coarſe ſugar without fire.

XII. America.

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XII. America.
1. For ſettling the Iſle of Santa Cruz in America.
2. ——————— Iſles of Blanco and Sal Tortuga in ditto.
3. Trade to the River Oronoko.
4. ——— to Nova Scotia, two millions.
5. ——— to the Golden Iſlands, Sir Robert Montgomery's.
6. ——— for importing of naval ſtores from Nova Scotia and Virginia.
7. ——— for walnut-tree from Virginia, two millions.
8. ——— for hemp and flax from Pennſylvania.
9. ——— for beaver fur, two millions.
10. ——— for pitch and tar, from America and Scotland.
11. ——— for importing and exporting of tobacco, four millions.

XIII. Buildings.
1. Building and re-building of houſes in England.
2. For purchaſing grounds to build on in London.

XIV. Lands.
1. For meliorating of lands.
2. For improving of lands in Great Britain, four millions ſubſcribed for.
3. ——————————— in Flintſhire, one million ſubſcribed for.
4. For improving the breed of horſes, and the improvement of glebe and church lands, &c.
5. Planting of madder.
6. Improving of gardens.
7. For purchaſing and improving of lands.
8. Ditto for a Royalty in Eſſex.
9. Ditto for fenny lands in Lincolnſhire.
10. Ditto for improving of tillage and cattle.
11. Another for the breed of horſes.
12. Another for purchaſing the forfeited eſtates, (Sir James Hallet's) one million two hundred thouſand pounds ſubſcribed.
13. For the corn trade.

XV. Oil Bubbles.
1. An oil patent, with land ſecurity.
2. Rape oil ſubſcription.
3. Beech oil, Aaron Hill's project.
4. For making of oil from poppies.
5. ——————————— ſun-flower ſeed.
6. ——————————— reddiſh ſeed.

XVI. Harbours and Rivers.
1. For repairing of Moriſon's Haven.
2. For an engine to take up ballaſt.
3. For making the river Dee, in Cheſhire, navigable.
4. Ditto for the River Douglas.

1720 XVII. Supplies for London, viz.

1. For ſupplying London with ſea coal, three millions.
2. ——————— cattle.
3. ——————— hay and ſtraw.
4. For paving its ſtreets, two millions.

XVIII. Hemp, Flax, and their Manufactures, viz.

1. For planting of hemp and flax in Scotland and Ireland, and for making of ſail-cloth, cordage, &c.
2.—3. Two other different ſail-cloth ſubſcriptions.
4. For the Holland and ſail-cloth manufactures,
5. For the cambrick and lawn manufactures.
6. Sail-cloth in Ireland.

XIX. For the Silk and Cotton Manufactures, viz.

1. For raiſing of ſilk-worms.
2. Another for planting of mulberry trees, and breeding of ſilk-worms in Chelſea Park, (by Sir Richard Manningham) where two thouſand of theſe trees were actually planted, and many large expenſive edifices were erected; the remains whereof are ſcarcely now to be ſeen.
3. For making of muſlin.
4. For improving the cotton, and the ſilk and cotton manufactures.
5. Another for improving the ſilk manufactures.

XX. Metals, Mines, and Minerals, viz.

1. For making iron and ſteel in Great Britain, four millions.
2. For the improving Engliſh iron and ſteel.
3. For extracting ſilver from lead.
4. For improving the tin mines of Cornwall and Devonſhire.
5. For the tranſmuting quickſilver into a malleable and fine metal.
6. For ſmelting lead.
7. For milling lead.
8. For improving Mr. Wood's iron works and manufactures.
9. ——————— the lead mines in Glouceſterſhire.
10. For importing Swediſh iron.
11. For improving Engliſh copper and braſs.
12. ——————— the Derbyſhire mines.
13. ——————— the Jamaica mines.
14. ——————— the Britiſh allum works.
15. For making of iron with pit coal.

XXI. For making of fire-engines.

XXII. For building of hoſpitals for baſtard children.

XXIII. For erecting of turnpikes and wharfs.

XXIV. For dealing in hops.

XXV. For building ſhips againſt pirates.

XXVI. For buying of navy and victualling ſtores for the uſe of the royal navy.

XXVII. For the corn trade.

XXVIII. For drying of malt with hot air.

XXIX. For

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XXIX. For improving of malt liquors, four millions.

XXX. For recovering of ſeamen's wages.

XXXI. For working of tin plates, or whited iron plates.—(This manufacture, ſince the year 1720, is brought to great perfection in Monmouthſhire, and elſewhere in England; which before we had entirely from Germany; ours being now alſo of greater beauty and durableneſs than any foreign tinned plates.)

XXXII. For cleaning and paving London ſtreets, two millions.

XXXIII. Weſt's permits for buying and ſelling of ſtocks.

XXXIV. For the making of china ware and delft-ware.

XXXV. For importing a number of large jack-aſſes from Spain; in order to propagate a larger kind of mules in England. For which purpoſe, marſh-lands were treating for, near Woolwich. A clergyman, long ſince dead, being at the head of this bubble.

XXXVI. For trading in human hair.

XXXVII. Ditto in Flanders lace.

XXXVIII. For fatting of hogs.

XXXIX. For preparing tobacco for the making of ſnuff.

XL. For purchaſing or recovering eſtates illegally detained.

XLI. For a more inoffenſive method of emptying or cleanſing of neceſſary-houſes.

XLII. For better curing the Venereal Diſeaſe.

XLIII. A ſubſcription advertiſed, and actually opened, for an undertaking, which ſhall, in due time be revealed.

XLIV. For importing of timber from Germany.

XLV. ——————————— Norway.

XLVI. For a trade to his Majeſty's German dominions.

XLVII. For the exportation of our woollen manufacture, and the importation of copper, braſs, and iron.

XLVIII. For the more effectual making of Colcheſter Bays.

XLIX. For employing the poor. (Lawr. Braddon.)

L. For employing poor artificers, and furniſhing merchants with money.

LI. For lending money to merchants to pay their duties; for purchaſing government ſecurities; for granting annuities for lives; and for building of ſhips to let to freight.

LII. For lending money on ſtocks, annuities, &c.

LIII. Another ditto for lending money at intereſt.

LIV. ———————— the encouragement of the induſtrious.

LV. For making glaſs bottles.

LVI. ———— coach glaſſes and looking-glaſſes, two millions.

LVII. ———— pitch, tar, turpentine, &c.

LVIII. ———— pantiles.

LIX. ———— ſoap.

LX. ———— Joppa and Caſtile ſoap.

LXI. ———— of Mancheſter ſtuffs, cottons, and tapes.

LXII. For a grand diſpenſary, three millions.

LXIII. For a wheel for a perpetual motion.

LXIV. For lading and entering goods at the cuſtom-houſe.

LXV. For trading in, and improving certain commodities of this kingdom three millions.

LXVI. For

1720 LXVI. For a trade to Barbary, [Jezreel Jones's)

LXVII. For making paſteboard and packing paper.

LXVIII. Another for the paper manufacture.

LXIX. For making ſtarch.

LXX. For building and rebuilding houſes throughout England, three millions.

LXXI. For furniſhing funerals.

LXXII. Another for buying and ſelling lands, and lending money at intereſt, five millions.

LXXIII Loan offices for encouraging the induſtrious.

LXXIV. For the clothing, felt, and pantile trades.

LXXV. Inſuring and increaſing childrens fortunes.

LXXVI. For importing oils and other materials for the woollen manufactures.

LXXVII. For paying penſions to widows, &c. at a ſmall diſcount, two millions.

LXXVII. For employing poor artificers, furniſhing merchants, &c. with watches.

LXXIX. For inſuring of maſters for the loſſes ſuſtained by ſervants, three millions.

LXXX. Timber from Wales.

Although this be the largeſt collection of the bubbles of this year, yet I am perſuaded there are ſome omitted, which we have not been able to recollect: ſome may poſſibly think this collection of them too prolix; yet we apprehended, that to many readers they would be a curioſity; and to poſterity an uſeful memento: and it is even poſſible, that out of ſo many abortive ones, amounting, as they do, to conſiderably above two hundred, ſome improving genius may hereafter luckily render ſome of them practicable and uſeful; as has been the caſe already with reſpect to the Tinned-plate Manufacture, &c. Yet of all the above-named numerous projects, only four, properly ſpeaking, exiſt at preſent, viz. the two Aſſurance Companies, by legal new charters; the York-Buildings Company, if it may be ſaid ſtill to exiſt, and the Engliſh Copper Company, its charter being found legal.

Many of the before-mentioned bubbles were indeed ſo nonſenſical and abſurd, appearing even from their very titles, as it might be imagined could only draw in the more ignorant part of the people; yet even thoſe had a very conſiderable run, much money being got and loſt by them: and as for the great bulk of them, there were almoſt incredible numbers of tranſactions in them daily and hourly, for ready money, and moſtly at very advanced prices; as may partly be conceived by thoſe whoſe higheſt prices we have ſet down. Moreover, great numbers of contracts were made for taking many of them at a future time; and alſo for Puts and Refuſals of them, at very high prices; more eſpecially in the York-Buildings Company:—In the Temple Mills, Braſs Manufacture:—In the two Copper Companies, &c. in the books of one of which, viz. the Welch Copper Company or Bubble, (long ſince come to nothing) I have ſeen ſome hundreds of contracts regiſtered, according to act of Parliament, at very extravagant prices. And it is much to be lamented, that perſons of high rank and dignity placed themſelves at the head of many of thoſe even illegal projects. So great was the infatuation of this time.

The fatal writs of *ſcire facias* at length were iſſued, on the eighteenth of Auguſt, againſt the following pretended companies, viz. the York-Buildings Company; Luſtring Company; the Engliſh Copper and Welch Copper Companies; expreſly by name; and in general againſt all other projects promulgated contrary to law; and the crown-lawyers' were ſtrictly to proſecute

A. D. 1720 cute all ſuch as had opened books of ſubſcriptions, and all who ſubſcribed to them, or who made or accepted any transfer in them.

It was apprehended by many thinking people, that this general infatuation might laſt till winter, when it was imagined it would inſenſibly ſubſide of itſelf. But the earneſtneſs of the South Sea Junto to obtain the *ſcire facias* brought it ſooner to an iſſue, though very differently from what they aſſuredly expected. The publication of it, by authority, in the London Gazette, inſtantly ſtruck ſo general a panic amongſt the conductors of all the undertakings, projects, or bubbles, that the ſuddenneſs as well as greatneſs of their fall was amazing. York-Buildings ſtock, for inſtance, fell at once from three hundred to two hundred, and, in two days after, neither it nor the other three undertakings, expreſly named in the *ſcire facias*, had buyers at any price whatever. The more barefaced bubbles of all kinds immediately ſhrunk to their original nothing; their projectors ſhut up their offices, and ſuddenly diſappeared; and Exchange-Alley with its coffee-houſes were no longer crowded with adventurers, many of whom having laid out their ſubſtance in thoſe airy purchaſes, now found themſelves to be utterly undone; whilſt, on the other hand, ſuch as had dealt in them to great advantage, became extremely ſhy of owning their gains.

This ſtate of things, how calamitous ſoever it might appear, was but the prelude to the grand calamity which ſoon enſued by the fall of South Sea ſtock and ſubſcriptions. For when the *ſcire facias* came abroad, that ſtock was at eight hundred and fifty per cent. for the opening of the books in Auguſt, including the Midſummer dividend; but, from that time forward, it gradually declined in price, though with many great fluctuations, occaſioned by the various arts and endeavours of the Junto to keep it up; ſome of the particulars whereof have, in part, been already mentioned.

At the opening of their books, on the twenty-ſecond of Auguſt, the ſtock was at eight hundred and twenty per cent. and two days after the directors opened a fourth money ſubſcription, for the purchaſe of one million two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſtock, at one thouſand pounds per cent. whereof two hundred pounds, or twenty per cent. was paid down, the remainder to be in four equal half yearly payments of two hundred pounds each, though afterwards altered to eight different payments of one hundred pounds each. This ſubſcription was alſo much crowded, and was compleated in three hours time, and ſold that ſame evening at forty per cent. advance, but this advance was not laſting; for although the managers now lent out large ſums of money, for ſix months, on their ſtock, valuing it only at four hundred per cent. and at ſo moderate an intereſt as four per cent. yet the ſtock could not be kept up to eight hundred. Moreover, the laſt ſubſcribers of the public debts, both irredeemable and redeemable, began to murmur on account of the high prices at which they had ſubſcribed into the ſtock; and alſo becauſe their ſtock was not as yet brought into their names, but artfully poſtponed from time to time. Numbers alſo who had contracted for ſtock for this opening of the books, at much higher prices than the ſtock now ſold at, joined in thoſe complaints, of whom not a few were perſons of high rank and quality: all which was not a little heightened by the numerous ſufferers from the leſſer ſtocks and bubbles. The court of Directors now ſaw their miſtake, but too late, in procuring the *ſcire facias*, but inſtead of healing and moderate meaſures, they, on the thirtieth of Auguſt, in order to raiſe the expectations of men to the higheſt pitch, declared, " That thirty per cent. in money ſhould be the dividend for the " half year which would be due at Chriſtmas following. And," to fill up the meaſure of their extravagance, " that, for the next ſucceeding twelve years, not leſs than fifty per cent.

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1720 "in money ſhould be the annual dividend on their ſtock." How romantic ſoever this laſt declaration may at preſent ſeem, it was but barely correſponding with the price of their two laſt money ſubſcriptions. Had all the remaining public debts been taken in at the price of the laſt ſubſcription; and had the four ſets of money ſubſcribers duly made good all their payments; and, moreover, had the company been able to ſell all their remaining ſtock at one thouſand per cent. or higher, and that their loans of money had all been duly repaid; upon theſe ſuppoſitions, the company might poſſibly have been able to have made ſo vaſt a dividend, for at leaſt part of the ſaid twelve years ſpace; but that would have been attended with the certain and grievous future loſs of their principal as well as intereſt. However, even this pompous declaration was able only for two days, viz. till the firſt of September, to raiſe the ſtock from ſeven hundred and eighty to eight hundred and ten, from which laſt-named day it gradually ſunk to the eighth of that month, when it was at ſix hundred and eighty: whereby it plainly appeared, that none believed theſe boaſted dividends could prudently and rationally take place. Yet, on the ſaid eighth of September, a general court, crowded with perſons of diſtinction, gave thanks to the court of Directors for their prudent and ſkilful management; and even fulſome commendations were added by ſome members of both Houſes of Parliament. Thoſe panegyriſts then told the directors, "That they had lain aſleep all our domeſtic animoſities, and had reconciled all parties in one common intereſt," *i. e.* money getting, "that they had increaſed the fortunes of the monied men, whilſt they had been the means of "doubling the value of land eſtates." It was indeed true, that for a few months, ſuch as had ſold out at high prices, eagerly coveting to purchaſe land with the money, occaſioned lands to be ſold at thirty-five to forty years purchaſe; and ſome for ſomewhat more, as nearly happened at Paris the year before, which might have been warning ſufficient to our ſchemers. Yet, in the ſpace of a few weeks after, thoſe very perſons were for hanging up all the court of Directors. On the twentieth of September, the ſtock was fallen to four hundred and ten, when a general court agreed to reduce the term of the laſt ſubſcribers of the public debts to the price of four hundred per cent. as alſo of the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions from one thouſand to four hundred per cent. It was alſo hinted that the Bank had agreed, or would agree, to take a quantity of their ſtock at four hundred per cent. in payment for three millions ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds redeemable debt, for which the South Sea Company was to pay off the Bank. This was afterwards called the Bank-contract, the very ſurmize of which had run up South Sea ſtock on the twelfth of that month to ſix hundred and ſeventy-five, which, however, fell the next day to five hundred and fifty. It was afterwards denied to have ever been executed as a legal contract; but had only been diſcourſed of between ſome miniſters of ſtate and the two companies: but although it never took place, it certainly drew in many new purchaſers of ſtock to their great loſs, and, for that reaſon, occaſioned much noiſe and ſcribbling, though long ſince buried in oblivion.

The frailty of the whole South Sea ſcheme now too plainly appearing to all: the ſtock, on the twenty-ninth of September, had fallen to one hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. and their bonds were at twenty-five per cent. diſcount; whereupon there appeared great uneaſineſs and clamour amongſt the monied men, which produced a great run or demand for caſh at the Bank, and a greater one on the private bankers who had generally lent out much of their caſh on South Sea ſtock and ſubſcriptions, in conſequence of which ſeveral very ſubſtantial ones were obliged to ſtop payment for ſome time. And now, juſt when drowning, all people began ſeriouſly to reflect on the calamities brought on people in France, but a few months ſooner,

by

A. D. 1720 by the famous Miſſiſſippi ſtock or bubble; and to draw a melancholy parallel; which reflexions, made a few months ſooner, would have ſaved many a worthy family from diſtreſs: great clamour was alſo raiſed on account of contracts at high prices, for the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions performable on delivery of the company's receipts, although no receipts had ever been iſſued for them. At a general court, on the thirtieth of September, the ſuppoſed contract with the Bank was again mentioned as a poſitive agreement, at four hundred per cent. for South Sea ſtock, which now therefore, from one hundred and thirty roſe to three hundred and twenty, but could by no methods be kept ſo high: the faſcination was over, and therefore it fell daily lower, more eſpecially when it was known after all, that the ſuppoſed Bank contract was no reality, but a mere temporary and very unjuſt expedient to quiet the clamours of the people.

At this general court, alſo, the redeemable debts, before taken in at one hundred and five for one hundred, were now reduced to only one hundred; and, inſtead of the former allowance of ſtock at eight hundred per cent. they were now allowed ſtock at four hundred per cent. with the Midſummer dividend of ten per cent. in ſtock.

The ſecond ſubſcription of irredeemables was made equal to the firſt ſubſcription thereof; and the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions were reduced to four hundred per cent. in ſtock: and the ten per cent. in ſtock was allowed to them all.

It was then thought very hard on the Bank, if ever really intended, to be forced into a bargain ſo diſadvantageous, merely for helping their rivals out of the mire. And now, towards the cloſe of this year of marvels, were ſeen the great loſſes of many families of rank, and ſome of great quality, and the utter ruin of merchants before of great figure, and alſo of certain eminent phyſicians, clergy, and lawyers, as well as of many eminent tradeſmen: ſome of whom, after ſo long living in ſplendor, were not able to ſtand the ſhock of poverty and contempt, and died of broken hearts; others withdrew to remote parts of the world, and never returned.

Many expedients were at this time ſtarted, for the relief of the ſufferers by South Sea ſtock; amongſt others, an ingraftment of eighteen millions of that ſtock into the other two great companies, nine millions into the Bank, and nine millions into the Eaſt India ſtock; which occaſioned warm debates in the general courts of thoſe two companies, who at length agreed to it. Yet, although an act of Parliament, of the ſeventh of King George, confirmed it, it was never carried into execution. The South Sea Company alſo, in their diſtreſs, petitioned the King for a grant of that part of the iſland of St. Chriſtopher, in the Weſt Indies, which France had yielded up to us by the treaty of Utrecht; as alſo of the country of Nova Scotia, which, they alleged, would be very much to the advantage of their trade, and to the King's revenue: but although they did not ſucceed therein, they proved ſucceſsful in their applications to have a remiſſion by the legiſlature of the entire ſum they were bound to pay for taking in the national debts: whereby the public was deprived of all the benefits hoped from that ſcheme, excepting the reducing the irredeemable debts into a ſtate of redemption. This remiſſion however was granted; with a proviſo, that from Midſummer 1722, two millions of the company's capital ſtock ſhould be annihilated, for the benefit of the public. Yet, by the act of the ninth of that King, which divided their capital into two equal moieties, theſe two millions capital ſtock were again reſtored to the company from the ſaid term of Midſummer 1722.

1720 We muſt again return back to the French ſtock jobbing or bubble affairs of this year 1720. In February, an arret was iſſued for uniting their Bank to their Eaſt India Company, (now eſtabliſhed in perpetuity) as we have already ſeen the latter united to the Miſſiſſippi Company, and the appellation of Miſſiſſippi ſunk in the more general name of the India Company. The arret ſets forth, “ That, as this Bank is Royal, the King is bound to make good the full “ value of its notes or bills.—And that, as there is a great connexion between the operations “ of this Bank and thoſe of the India Company, he commits to the latter the government “ and profits of the ſaid Bank during their term of fifty years.—Hereby alſo the King ſells “ to the company the fifty millions of India ſtock, belonging to him, for nine hundred millions:” *i. e.* one thouſand eight hundred per cent.—“ The King alſo hereby declares,” though it was ſoon after ſeen how far ſuch declarations were to be relied on, “ That he will “ never draw on the Bank till they have the value firſt brought in to them by his receivers- “ general, &c. Nor ſhall the company be obliged to advance any money hereafter for his “ ſervice on any pretence whatever, further than what their caſhier ſhall previouſly have of “ his Majeſty's in his cuſtody.”

This junction of the Bank to the India Company haſtened the downfall of both. It was ſaid, that this bank had already iſſued notes to the amount of one thouſand millions: (or about forty millions ſterling, as the exchange then was,) *i. e.* more paper than all the banks in Europe are able to circulate: for that of Amſterdam is rather a depoſit of credit than a proper circulating Bank. And, to make this Bank the more reputable, the receivers of the King's revenue were directed to take bank notes of their ſub-receivers: and it was further ordered, that all payments of one hundred livres and upwards ſhould be made in Bank notes; ſo that, for a ſhort ſpace, they began to have great credit, in conſequence of which they began to diſcount merchants bills, to lend caſh on jewels, plate, &c. and alſo on mortgages. All which, however, proved too little, under ſo deſpotic a government. For although by ſuch methods, and by altering the nominal value of the coin, &c. they thought to ſupport public credit, yet its bottom being rotten, thoſe compulſive means were highly improper for eſtabliſhing credit, which ever muſt be as free as common air, and plainly argued the want of ſolid ſecurity. For, as nothing but the inviolable ſecurity and freedom of property can ever create a confidence in people for eſtabliſhing a permanent paper credit; who could poſſibly, for any long ſpace, confide in a Bank which had only the bare word of a monarch, who, at his pleaſure, can and frequently does alter the value of private property, and who may at once lay his iron hands on the whole caſh of the Bank.

Old Louis XIV. had tried every means, but the only true one, which human art could deviſe for creating a real public credit in France, from his obſerving what immenſe advantage it had been to England in the wars of King William and Queen Anne, whereby we were become the wonder and envy of the reſt of Europe; yet he could never effect it; becauſe, agreeable to his nature and to his arbitrary government, he falſified the moſt ſolemn of his own edicts whenever his neceſſities pinched him. By another edict, of the ſame month, the King enjoins, that no perſon keep in his houſe or poſſeſſion above five hundred livres in current coin, under the penalty of ten thouſand livres. All which violent methods are declared in thoſe arrets or edicts, to be “ for the good of his ſubjects,—to make proviſions “ cheap,—to ſupport public credit,—to facilitate circulation,—and to increaſe commerce and “ manufactures.”

A. D. 1720 In March a moſt extraordinary arret of the council of ſtate is iſſued. For fixing the price of the actions of the India Company at nine thouſand livres each. Many arrets in theſe times appeared for the purpoſe of altering the nominal value of the gold and ſilver coins of France, ſometimes to an higher and at other times to a lower value. All which tended to no other end but the getting rid of the public debts, and filling the King's coffers, without any regard to the immenſe loſſes which ſuch proceedings brought on his impoveriſhed ſubjects.

Yet the India, or Miſſiſſippi, ſtock ſtill continued to advance in price by entire hundreds per cent. even in one day's time: and whilſt that ſtock continued riſing, great were the encomiums beſtowed on the Duke Regent; and his tool, Mr. Law, was deemed an infallible oracle;—whoſe ſcheme of ſatisfying the public creditors, by giving them the general farm of the revenues, was by his agents ſaid to reſemble the Bank of St. George at Genoa; and, like that Bank, would be the ſtaff and ſtay of the ſtate. A moſt improper compariſon truly, between an eſtabliſhment in a free republic, and one in the moſt abſolute monarchy of any in Chriſtendom. And when this India ſtock was got to the price of two thouſand and fifty per cent. it produced, for a few months, the following ſtrange paradoxical effects in France, viz.

I. The ſtate bills, which before had been at ſixty-three per cent. diſcount, were then got up to twenty per cent. above par.

II. Thus the King got rid of one thouſand five hundred millions of public debts, in a few weeks, without paying any money.

III. By remitting of certain burdenſome taxes on the people, the royal revenue had been increaſed ſome millions.

The French King at this time abſolutely prohibits all the eccleſiaſtical communities and hoſpitals of France from putting out their money at intereſt any-where but in India ſtock. Notwithſtanding all which, and many other extraordinary meaſures, the immenſeneſs of its capital at length could not fail to bring down its price: for the prevention of which event various means were tried, ſuch as, the King's giving that company the ſole property of the iſland named Belleiſle, on the ſouth weſt coaſt of Bretagne, ſince conquered by his Britannic Majeſty, and afterwards the trade to the iſle of Hiſpaniola, &c.

The ſtock of the India Company ſtill fluctuating, Mr. Law cauſed ſeveral pamphlets to be publiſhed, for illuſtrating its vaſt benefits to the proprietors of it; and the impoſſibility of the King's ever doing it any prejudice. What followed ſo very ſoon after puts one in mind of Ben Johnſon's comedy of Bartholomew Fair, where, for the more ſecurely promoting the trade of cut-purſes, the chief of their gang gets on a ſtool, and ſings a ballad againſt cut-purſes.

For, on the twenty-firſt of May, the King's fatal arret comes out, by which, under pretence of his having reduced the value of his coin, it was declared neceſſary to reduce the nominal value of his Bank notes and the India ſtock, viz. the former to one half, and the latter from nine thouſand livres per action to five thouſand livres. It is eaſy to conceive the calamity which this reduction produced throughout France. The Bank notes inſtantly loſt their currency. Mr. Hutcheſon, an author of credit, obſerves, that the French crown in Bank-money, which, in September 1719, was worth thirty-pence ſterling in exchange to London, was now worth about three-pence payable in French Bank bills. To prevent tumults, the guards are placed every-where. The Parliament remonſtrates to the King the fatal conſequences hereof; which occaſioned the following arret, viz. “ The King being informed, that “ his reduction of Bank bills has had an effect quite contrary to his intentions, and has pro-

A. D. 1720 "duced a general confuſion in commerce: and being deſirous to favour the circulation of the "ſaid Bank bills, for the convenience of ſuch as give or who ſhall take them in payment: "and, having heard the report of the Sieur Law, he has ordained, that Bank bills be current "on the ſame footing as before the above arret; which he hereby revokes."

On the twenty-ninth of May, however, Mr. Law found it prudent to reſign his office of Comptroller-General of the Finances, by the interpoſition of the Parliament of Paris with the Duke of Orleans, Regent: whereupon it was thought needful to allow him two Swiſs officers as his guard; and commiſſaries were appointed to inſpect his accounts. Several other means were now uſed to keep up the tottering tumbling public credit. And, as many of the ſtate creditors had lately been paid off with Bank notes, which were now become troubleſome to circulate, by reaſon of their vaſt quantity, theſe were now taken in by a new ſubſcription of one thouſand millions on the town-houſe of Paris, at two and a half per cent. or twenty-five millions of annuities.

And, for leſſening the number of actions in the India Company, the King gives up one hundred millions which belonged to him, and the company alſo ſunk three hundred millions which they held in their corporate capacity. But, on the other hand, in order to make a dividend to the proprietors of three per cent. on the nominal value of twelve thouſand livres per ſhare, they make a ſort of call of three thouſand livres per ſhare, payable in ſix months.

Various other ſlight-of-hand tricks were now put in practice, to hoodwink the people, and, if poſſible, to retrieve their good opinion of India ſtock, upon which a new company of inſurance was now engrafted for that end: and every three or four days arrets came out, contradicting, repealing, or altering the preceding ones; ſo that no fewer than ten ſuch came out during the month of June in this year; the ſubſtance whereof, and of the proceedings of France for three years paſt, relating to their India or Miſſiſſippi trade and company, and their Royal Bank, we find principally in a large collection of arrets, memorials, &c. publiſhed at Paris, in the year 1720, by authority, in two quarto volumes, which we have abridged as much as poſſible; from whence a general knowledge may in part be gathered of that madneſs in France, which had in this year infected all the other monied countries of Europe.

The cruel reduction of the value of French bank-notes, the reductions of their India ſtock, and the conſequent general confuſion; the numberleſs alterations, within the ſpace of a few months, in the nominal value of the coin of France;—all theſe obliged wiſe and provident perſons to ſend their effects into other countries, leſt they ſhould be gradually reduced to nothing. For preventing thereof, an ordonnance comes out on the twentieth of June, by which the King enjoins all his ſubjects to bring back their effects, upon pain of forfeiting double the value; and, on like forfeiture, ſtrictly enjoining them not to inveſt their money in the ſtocks of foreign companies:—Than which ordonnance, nothing, ſurely, could more effectually alarm their people.

Merchants and others now refuſing to take theſe bank-notes in payments, an arret came out, prohibiting any perſon whatever from refuſing them, under forfeiture of double the value. Yet, on that ſame day, the run or demand on the bank was ſo great, that another ordonnance of the King came out, importing, "That he being informed of the tumult at the Bank, "upon account of paying their notes, he has thought fit to ſuſpend the payment of the ſaid "notes till further orders."—There was not caſh in the Bank to pay the fiftieth part of them. "Strictly forbidding all perſons whatever from meeting or aſſembling together, on any pre"tence whatever." And guards were placed, on this lamentable occaſion, at ſeveral public

places

A. D. 1720 places in Paris, where merchants and others concerned in India ſtock, bank-notes, and bills of exchange, uſed to aſſemble in great numbers, whereby they were diſperſed.

In July many arrets came abroad, for raiſing the fallen credit of India ſtock, though to no purpoſe. And, on the thirtieth, an arret appears for again raiſing the nominal value of the French coin; and, for the leſſening the number of bank-notes, ſix hundred millions thereof were now turned into India ſtock, at nine thouſand livres per ſhare. And although this was but an airy manner of payment, it was however eſtemed better than bank-notes, which had no currency at all. Other great ſums in bank-notes were erected into annuities, at two per cent. per annum, and into life annuities, at five per cent.

On the firſt of September, the Duke Regent of France directed to be publiſhed,

Firſt, A general ſtate of the public debts of France at the death of King Louis XIV. amounting to upwards of one thouſand nine hundred and ſeventy-ſeven millions of livres, and their intereſt to very near ninety millions per annum.

Secondly, "Inſtead of which ſum of almoſt two thouſand millions," or near one hundred millions ſterling, "the King," ſays this ſtate, "now owes ſcarcely three hundred and forty "millions."

N. B. Of the ſaid firſt-named vaſt debt, the India Company has paid off ſix hundred millions, by diſcharging ſo many bank-notes, which the King muſt have otherwiſe paid or ſunk. And that bank was thereby entirely at an end, and ſhut up. The reſt, by different chicaneries between the Regent and Law, were wiped off.

That general ſtate further acquaints the public, "That ſince the Duke of Orleans's acceſſion "to the Regency, the royal finances have been augmented above eighty-three millions of "livres per annum. And yet," believe it who can, "the people have, within that time, "been eaſed of taxes or impoſts to the amount of fifty-two millions per annum."—Be this as it may, he certainly got rid of ſo much national debt, to the ruin of thouſands of families, by means before-mentioned.

We ſhall only add, concerning the ſaid vaſt French India capital ſtock, that it gradually dwindled in value till it ſettled in their preſent Eaſt India Company; which, by dint of application, &c. has ſince made ſo great a figure, as well in India as in Europe, ſo as greatly to interfere with the intereſts of the other European nations trading to the Eaſt Indies. And that the Regent's chief inſtrument, Law, being now obliged to leave France, died in obſcurity, without having acquired any thing very conſiderable for himſelf, although he had it once in his power to have been the richeſt ſubject in Chriſtendom.

1721 We now return to conſider further the unfortunate ſituation of the proprietors of the Britiſh national debts, ſubſcribed into the South Sea Company in the year 1720, and of the purchaſers of South Sea ſtock by money ſubſcriptions, at high prices. Towards the cloſe of that year, theſe began clearly to perceive the ſad ſtate they were reduced to by their own credulity, as well as by other cauſes already related; and that all the ſchemes propoſed for raiſing the ſtock to its former high price were perfectly viſionary. Their principal reſource now was, by the aſſiſtance of the legiſlature, to obtain an equal or fair diſtribution amongſt them of the undivided South Sea ſtock, as far as that would go; yet even that was attended with many difficulties, which it is unneceſſary to enlarge on at this diſtance of time. The redeemable creditors who had ſubſcribed, and alſo the money ſubſcribers, were in a ſad way. Neverthele ſs, to enter on all their reaſonings, as alſo on thoſe of the long annuity proprietors, would require more room than is conſiſtent with our general ſcope; as the pieces publiſhed on that occaſion,

which

A. D. 1721 which we have bound up, conſiſt of many conſiderable volumes, of ſeveral ſizes. We ſhall therefore content ourſelves with firſt exhibiting a brief ſtate of the whole South Sea capital ſtock, as it ſtood at Chriſtmas 1720, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. The old capital ſtock before Midſummer 1720 —	11,746,844	8	10
II. The ſtock of the irredeemable debts ſubſcribed —	12,069,349	2	6
III. The ſtock of the redeemable debts ſubſcribed —	13,986,690	2	8
Total South Sea ſtock at Chriſtmas 1720 — —	37,802,883	14	0

In which, however, a ſmall miſtake of four hundred pounds was afterwards found, whereby its true amount was thirty-ſeven millions eight hundred and two thouſand four hundred and eighty-theee pounds fourteen ſhillings.

And next, we ſhall, as briefly as poſſible, ſet down the quantity of ſtock allowed at different times, to the ſeveral ſpecies of new proprietors of South Sea ſtock, in conſequence of the very badly executed ſcheme we are now treating of, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. To the redeemable proprietors, ſtock was at firſt allowed them at eight hundred per cent. but afterwards reduced to four hundred: ſo that one hundred pounds redeemable debt had in South Sea ſtock twenty-five pounds; to which add the Midſummer ten per cent. is — — — —	27	10	0
2. The firſt additional third, by act of Parliament, the thirty-firſt of July, 1721	9	3	4
3. The ſecond additional third, by general court, September the firſt, 1721	12	4	5
	48	17	9
4. The addition of a ſixteenth part, by general court, twelfth of April, 1723	3	1	1
Total South Sea ſtock allowed for one hundred pounds redeemables ſubſcribed	51	18	10
II. The four money ſubſcriptions, though at firſt at different prices, had at length ſtock allowed them at four hundred per cent. and had afterwards the very ſame ſeveral additions as the redeemable debts; ſo that for every one hundred pounds they paid down, they were in all allowed — —	51	18	10

By which it will appear, that theſe two ſpecies had much harder terms than any of the other proprietors.

	£.	s.	d.
III. The irredeemable debts ſubſcribed were, in all, allowed, viz. long annuities, in the firſt ſubſcription had, for every one hundred pounds per ann. ſeven hundred pounds South Sea ſtock; and with ten per cent. dividend in ſtock for Midſummer 1720, made ſeven hundred and ſeventy pounds; which, with two or three of the additions made to the redeemables, as before exhibited, viz. the ſecond additional one-third, and the additional one-ſixteenth, made their ſtock amount to — — — — —	1,090	16	8
And they had, at ſubſcribing, in bonds ~~and~~ money —	575	0	0
Total ſtock and money in the firſt ſubſcription — —	1,665	16	8

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	£.	s.	d.
In the ſecond ſubſcription of thoſe ſame long annuities they were at firſt allowed ſtock at eight hundred per cent. which was afterwards reduced to four hundred per cent. and with the Midſummer ten per cent. amounted to	880	0	0
And the legiſlature having directed this ſecond ſubſcription to be made equal to the firſt ſubſcription, valuing the ſtock at one hundred and fifty per cent. that addition in ſtock amounted to	203	6	8
	1,083	6	8
And the two above-named additions, as made to the firſt ſubſcription, in ſtock, amounted to	451	7	8
Total ſtock allowed for one hundred pounds per annum in the ſecond ſubſcription; but no bonds nor money was given on it	1,543	14	4
The ninety-eight pounds per annum annuities, called fourteen per cents. had in the firſt ſubſcription ſeven hundred pounds ſtock allowed them, which, with all the before-named additions, amounted to	1,090	16	8
And in bonds and money	511	0	0
Total ſtock and money for ninety-eight pounds per ann. firſt ſubſcription,	1,601	16	8
And their ſecond ſubſcription in ſtock, with the ſame additions, but no bond nor money	1,474	5	6
The firſt ſubſcription of the nine per cents. had, in all, for every ninety pounds per annum in ſtock	545	8	4
And in bonds and money	217	10	0
Total for ninety pounds per annum, in the firſt ſubſcription	762	18	4
And their ſecond ſubſcription had ſix hundred and ninty-nine pounds ſeven ſhillings and two-pence ſtock, and two pounds, called odd money, in caſh.			
For the prize tickets of lottery 1710, one hundred pounds per annum, firſt ſubſcription, had in all in South Sea ſtock	623	6	8
And in bonds and money	200	0	0
Total in the firſt ſubſcription	823	6	8
And their ſecond ſubſcription had in all ſeven hundred and fifty-five pounds eleven ſhillings ſtock only.			
The blank tickets of lottery 1710 had for every ninety-eight pounds per annum	545	8	4
And in bonds and money	353	10	0
Total ſtock and money in the firſt ſubſcription	898	18	4

		£.	s.	d.
1720	And their ſecond ſubſcription had (in ſtock) — — —	827	16	0
	And in odd money — — — — — —	2	0	0
	Total ſecond ſubſcription — — — —	829	16	0

Thus it plainly appeared, that all the irredeemable debts ſubſcribed were put upon a much better footing than the redeemable ones, and the money ſubſcribers; who certainly were very hardly uſed.

IV. The old capital ſtock before Midſummer 1720 had, beyond all other ſpecies of proprietors, the very beſt terms granted to them, viz. the ten per cent. dividend for Midſummer 1720: likewiſe the additional third, or thirty-three pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence per cent. to the ſtock, by the general court on the firſt of September 1721; alſo the additional one-ſixteenth part, or ſix pounds five ſhillings per cent. on the twelfth of April 1723: whereby one hundred pounds of the old South Sea proprietors ſtock was increaſed, at Midſummer 1723, to one hundred and fifty-five pounds ſixteen ſhillings and eight-pence.

And thus at length men were forced to ſit down, though not contented, with their reſpective loſſes; although a ſecret committee of the Houſe of Commons, in the beginning of this year 1721, made ſeveral large reports againſt the conduct of the directors, and indirectly againſt others in very high ſtations, ſome of whom were expreſsly included in the laws made for mulcting thoſe directors, and for ſequeſtering their eſtates, and thoſe of ſome of their principal ſervants; more eſpecially their treaſurer, in whoſe breaſt many important ſecrets were by the croud ſuppoſed to be lodged, particularly againſt a noble lord then in power, who nevertheleſs was well known to be hitherto no way inclined to avarice. Indeed, the loſſes of individuals, and the writings of the party ſcriblers, occaſioned many people at that time to believe, that the ſcheme itſelf contained ſecrets of very great importance. Bribery, corruption, and robbing of the public, were faſhionable words at this time, and helped to fill up pamphlets and newſpapers: and many of thoſe who had very lately moſt obſequiouſly courted and ſhamefully flattered the unhappy directors, were now the loudeſt for the moſt ſevere puniſhments. It was, however, but too true that the directors, or rather the junto of managers, in order to make their ſcheme go more eaſily down, made conſiderable largeſſes, at the company's coſt, to many perſons of influence; and that in the execution of their whole ſcheme they had much too great a latitude allowed them.—That the fictitious ſale of ſtock, prior to the paſſing of the act of Parliament:—Their lending out above eleven millions of the company's money on ſtock and ſubſcriptions, without an adequate ſecurity:—Their taking ſo enormous a leap from four hundred to one thouſand per cent. in the price of their ſtock for the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions:—Their making private additions to the money ſubſcriptions, for the benefit of friends; and the ſuffering ſuch friends to withdraw thoſe ſubſcriptions on the fall of ſtock.—Their giving away large ſums of the company's money for the future Refuſal of ſtock at high prices, in order to raiſe it to thoſe prices:—Their laying out great ſums of the company's money, for the buying up of ſtock for the ſame end:—Their making many alterations, additions, and eraſements, in ſums and names on the ſaid loans, &c. were all utterly unjuſtifiable. Yet, with reſpect to the bulk of the Miniſtry and Parliament, there is ſome reaſon to think, that their liſtening to the propoſals of the South Sea Directors proceeded purely from a deſire of acquiring reputation by getting rid of part of our national burdens;

A. D. 1720 though, as already obſerved, neither that nor any other ſcheme, inconſiſtent with the ſtricteſt national faith, ought to be countenanced.

This was, we apprehend, the real ſtate of that whole affair, notwithſtanding the idle clamours of many who pretended to find out miraculous and occult myſteries in it. Avarice had at that time deeply infected perſons of all ranks, which contributed not a little to favour the South Sea managers, and to forward their own ſubſequent loſſes. Several of the directors themſelves were ſo far innocent as to be found poorer at the breaking up of the ſcheme than when it began; and many of them had the beſt characters till that infatuation; nay, the inventory of all their eſtates, excluſive of antecedent ſettlements, did not much exceed a million of money; which among ſo many perſons was, on an average, little more than thirty thouſand pounds each.

Many foreigners poſſeſſing, at that time, property in our funds were conſiderable loſers by the South Sea ſcheme, by which a balance, though not a very reputable one, was ſaid to be in our favour, nationally ſpeaking. The laudable canton of Bern is however ſaid to have been a very conſiderable gainer, in their public capacity, by this ſcheme. The amount of all the value of the contracts regiſtered at the South Sea Houſe, purſuant to act of Parliament, was nine millions nine hundred and ſeventeen thouſand eight hundred and ſixty-two pounds: on which there was two millions and upwards paid down, and the balance remaining due thereon was ſeven millions eight hundred and eighty-four thouſand one hundred and thirty-ſeven pounds, beſide the many contracts never regiſtered; and the many others made on account of the leſſer ſtocks and bubbles, whoſe nominal amount was then gueſſed by obſerving people, when at their higheſt prices, to exceed three hundred millions. And ſuppoſing all the increaſed South Sea capital of thirty-ſeven millions eight hundred and two thouſand eight hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings to have been negociated at one thouſand per cent. the amount would have been three hundred and eighty millions more. If, moreover, all the entire Bank and Eaſt India capitals had been negociated at their then advanced prices, that would have amounted to twenty-eight and a half millions more. The whole amounts to above ſeven hundred millions. Yet, as this laſt ſuppoſition is ſcarcely to be admitted, we ſhall rather adhere to our former ſuppoſition of five hundred millions being nearer to the nominal value of them all.

The unaccountable frenzy in ſtocks and projects of this year 1720 may by ſome be thought to have taken up too much room in this work: but we are perſuaded that others, of ſuperior judgment, will approve of the perpetuating, in ſo large a work, the remembrance thereof, as a warning to after ages.

We ſhall ſum up every thing which relates to the deceitful arts of raiſing South Sea ſtock by new and extravagant high ſubſcriptions, by a ſenſible, familiar, and moſt plain ſimile, written at this time by that ingenious gentleman Archibald Hutcheſon, Eſquire, long ſince dead, whoſe fair and candid calculations on this ſubject, and on our general national debts, make up a moderate folio volume, viz.

“ A, having one hundred pounds ſtock in trade, though pretty much in debt, gives it out
“ to be worth three hundred pounds, on account of many privileges and advantages to which
“ he is entitled. B, relying on A's great wiſdom and integrity, ſues to be admitted partner
“ on thoſe terms, and accordingly brings three hundred pounds into the partnerſhip. The
“ trade being afterwards given out or diſcovered to be very improving, C comes in at five
“ hundred pounds; and afterwards D, at one thouſand one hundred pounds. And the capital

1720 " is then compleated to two thouſand pounds. If the partnerſhip had gone no farther than " A and B, then A had got and B had loſt one hundred pounds. If it had ſtopped at C, then " A had got and C had loſt two hundred pounds; and B had been as he was before: but D " alſo coming in, A gains four hundred pounds, and B two hundred pounds; and C neither " gains nor loſes: but D loſes ſix hundred pounds. Indeed, if A could ſhew that the ſaid " capital was intrinſically worth four thouſand four hundred pounds, there would be no " harm done to D; and B and C would have been obliged to him. But if the capital at firſt " was worth but one hundred pounds, and increaſed only by the ſubſequent partnerſhips, it " muſt then be acknowledged, that B and C have been impoſed on in their turns, and that " unfortunate thoughtleſs D paid the piper."

This ſimile is too obvious to need explanation. A plainly repreſenting the original South Sea capital, as B and C do the firſt and ſecond ſubſcriptions for ſtock, and D the third and fourth ſubſcriptions. This came not out till the cloſe of the year 1720, when every one too late ſaw the general deception: but we remember many who were then of opinion, that had it been publiſhed before the two ſhameful ſubſcriptions at each one thouſand pounds per cent. had been reſolved on, it might have prevented ſo wild a meaſure.

The infection of new projects communicated itſelf in that ſame year of wonders into the cool and phlegmatic country of Holland, where ſeveral new ſubſcriptions for inſurances of ſhips, merchandize, &c. were ſet on foot, not only in their greater cities, but even in ſome inconſiderable ones. Thoſe idle ſubſcriptions, however, were not carried to any great and prejudicial height amongſt ſo wary a people, who ſoon returned to their proper vocations.

We had in that ſame year a ſeemingly judicious view of the iron manufacture of England, from a ſtate of it publiſhed by Mr. William Wood, who was then a great iron proprietor. He obſerves very juſtly, " That the iron manufacture is, next to the woollen manufacture, " the moſt conſiderable of all others in this nation.—That we then uſed about thirty thou- " ſand tons of iron per annum: of which, for want of a ſufficient ſupply of cord-wood, we " are forced to buy of our neighbours about twenty thouſand tons, with ready money; " which, at ten pounds per ton, is two hundred thouſand pounds per annum.—That we " have iron-ſtone enough, and may be able to ſupply ourſelves with cord wood to make the " greateſt part of, if not all, the iron we want, by planting and raiſing of copices on waſte " and other lands of ſmall value, and reſerving a certain quantity of acres to grow for timber- " trees." Yet, as all this was ſaid with a view to introduce the account of his iron partnerſhip, amongſt the projects or bubbles of that year, it muſt be read with caution. Mr. Wood had then a leaſe of all the mines on the crown lands of thirty-nine counties, whoſe furnaces were well ſupplied with pit coal;—ſome of the beſt iron works in the kingdom;—ſeveral forges for refining and drawing iron out into bars; alſo a ſlitting mill for rolling, ſlitting, and preparing the iron for its ſeveral uſes in manufacture;—furnaces for making pig-iron, pots, rails, and baniſters, backs and hearths for chimnies, and all other ſorts of caſt-iron, both with charcoal and pit coal. This is the ſame William Wood who afterwards unfortunately undertook the coinage of copper halfpence for the kingdom of Ireland, which he executed in ſo unfair a manner as occaſioned thoſe halfpence being called in, and his being totally diſcarded in that country, after much noiſe about it.

By an act of the Parliament of Great Britain of the ſaid ſixth year of King George the Firſt, For laying a Duty (of ſix pence per ounce) upon Wrought Plate, &c. it was enacted, " That " whereas it is found by experience, that ſilver plate made according to the old ſtandard of

A. D. 1720 “ eleven ounces and two penny weights of fine ſilver, (which was altered to eleven ounces “ ten penny weights by the eighth of King William, cap. vii.) are more ſerviceable and durable than thoſe made by the laſt named ſtandard. Wherefore the ſaid old ſterling ſtandard, “ of eleven ounces two penny weights of fine ſilver in a pound weight troy, is hereby reſtored.”

By the ſame ſtatute alſo, it was made felony to counterfeit the receipts for ſubſcriptions, and alſo, of the dividend warrants of the South Sea Company, or any endorſements thereon.

In the ſame famous year 1720, the Turkey Company made a moſt reaſonable complaint to Parliament, againſt ſome part of the Engliſh trade to Italy, as then managed by our Italian merchants: an act therefore of the ſixth of King George was paſſed, For prohibiting the importation of Raw Silk and Mohair Yarn of the Product or Manufacture of Aſia, from any Ports or Places in the Streights or Levant Seas, except from ſuch Ports or Places as are within the Dominions of the Grand Seignior. It ſeems our Italian merchants at Leghorn frequently purchaſed of the French thoſe goods, which they had brought from Turkey, in return for French woollen goods ſent to Turkey; thereby encouraging the French woollen manufacture, and diſcouraging our own. In this application the Turkey Company declare, that they conſiſted of two hundred members, all of whom traded ſeparately for themſelves, and buy and ſell without limitation.

We have an authentic view of the ſtrength of the royal navy of Great Britain in this year 1720, in Secretary Burchet's Naval Hiſtory, publiſhed in this year, viz.

NUMBER OF GUNS.	NUMBER OF SHIPS.	
Of 100	7	125 of the line of battle.
— 90	13	
— 80	16	
— 70	23	
— 60	19	
— 50	47	
— 40	23	
— 30	9	
— 20	25	
Total	182 Ships	

Which will require nine thouſand nine hundred and forty guns, excluſive of thoſe neceſſary for others of leſſer dimenſions; as fire-ſhips, bomb-veſſels, ſtore-ſhips, ſloops, yatchs, hoys, &c. which, he ſays, amounted to fifty more. We may ſafely add, that ſince that period, our royal navy is greatly increaſed, as well in bulk and conſtruction, as in their number and ſtrength.

The favourite project of France, in reſpect to North America, being to join their colony of Canada to that of Louiſiana, and alſo to obtain a port in the ocean; they, for thoſe ends, began very early after the treaty of Utrecht, to extend their limits on that continent; and although the fifteenth article of that peace had abſolutely excluded them from moleſting or encroaching on the five Indian nations of the Iroquois, as being peculiarly ſubject to the Britiſh crown; yet, in this ſame year 1720, they ſeized on the moſt important paſs of Niagara, and fortified the ſame, whereby they were the better able to command the Lakes, and to form the plan for extending their power to the Ohio River, and to carry their chain of forts and ſettlements

1720 ments from thence down to the Miſſiſippi River, and this fort they held till the year 1759. In the mean time, they had, by many arts, debauched thoſe five Indian nations ſo far, that they were brought to murder our people, in great numbers, who were ſettled among them.

In a treaty of peace, concluded in this year between Denmark and Sweden, at Frederickſtadt, under the mediation of George the Firſt, King of Great Britain, it was ſtipulated, that upon the crown of Denmark's relinquiſhing all former pretenſions to the crown of Sweden, the ſhips of Sweden in paſſing the Sound, or either of the two Belts, ſhould thenceforth pay to Denmark the ſame toll as is paid by Great Britain and the United Netherlands; Sweden thereby renouncing all exemption from the ſaid toll. So that by this treaty, there was thenceforth to be no longer any difference of nations in paſſing into or returning from the Baltic; all paying the ſame toll for ſhips and cargoes.

1721 Whilſt Archangel was the only ſtaple port for the Ruſſian naval commerce, the foreign merchants uſually reſided at Moſcow, and only travelled from thence in the ſummer ſeaſon to Archangel, where they had their warehouſes and factors: this method continued till the year 1721, when by order of the Czar, Peter the Great, the ſeat of commerce was transferred from Archangel to his new emporium of Peterſburg, now grown a very conſiderable city, which obliged the foreign traders to remove their factories to Peterſburg.

According to the author of a quarto pamphlet, publiſhed (by the then well-known and before named Mr. William Wood) in the year 1721, entitled, The State of the Copper and Braſs Manufactures in Great Britain; about thirty thouſand people were then ſuppoſed to ſubſiſt by thoſe manufactures.—He alſo remarks, that the ſaid metals were refined by pit coal alone. "We have" ſays he, "plenty of *lapis calaminaris* for making of braſs.—Copper ore is found "in many counties of England, Wales, and Scotland: and this nation could ſupply itſelf "with copper and braſs, of its own produce, ſufficient for all occaſions, if ſuch duties were "laid on foreign copper and braſs as would diſcourage their importation, and at the ſame time "encourage the ſale of our own metal."

After all the ſtir without doors, by pamphlets and newſpapers, and within doors by a ſecret committee of Parliament, all that could be done for the South Sea Company, was,

Firſt, By an act of Parliament of the ſeventh of King George, in the year 1721, To reſtrain their Sub and Deputy Governors, and Directors, Treaſurer, and Accountant, (this laſt was afterwards left out of the bill) from going out of the Kingdom,—and for diſcovering their Eſtates.

Secondly, By another act of the ſame year, They were diſabled from ever after enjoying the ſaid Offices, &c.

Thirdly, Another of the ſaid year was, For raiſing Money on their Eſtates, and on thoſe Mr. Aiſlabie and Mr. Craggs, ſenior; towards making good the loſſes ſuſtained by their miſmanagement in the year 1720; out of which, however, thoſe perſons were allowed certain ſums for their maintenance.

Fourthly, By another act of the ſame year, For making ſeveral Proviſions to reſtore the Public Credit, which ſuffers by the Frauds and Miſmanagements of the late Directors of the South Sea Company and others; (beſide what we have already related, of remitting to that company all the benefit the public was to have reaped by the company's privilege of taking in the public debts, and the putting the redeemables and the four money ſubſcriptions on an equal footing) the borrowers on ſtock and ſubſcriptions in that year, were hereby to be releaſed,

A. D. 1721 leaſed, on paying ten per cent. to the company; from which ten per cent. they were afterwards alſo releaſed.

By the ſame act alſo, all unperformed contracts for any kind of ſtocks and ſubſcriptions, made during the year 1720, were directed to be regiſtered by a fixed time, and in the mean time all law-ſuits thereon were to remain ſuſpended; which gave immediate eaſe to very many perſons concerned therein. By this act likewiſe, two millions of the company's capital was to be ſunk from Midſummer 1722, for the benefit of the public. And the ſecret committee, after a further report, of very little uſe or conſequence, broke off all the propoſed enquiries.

On the firſt of September, in this ſame year, the additional thirty-three pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence per cent. in ſtock, was made to the ſeveral proprietors already mentioned.

Peace was, in this ſame year 1721, concluded at Madrid on the thirteenth of June, between Great Britain and Spain, by which the peace of Utrecht was in general confirmed, and the South Sea Company was reſtored to the exerciſe of the Aſſiento contract for negroes, &c. and the full value of all that had been ſeized, was ſtipulated to be reſtored to that company. The ancient limits of both nations in America were confirmed, and the freedom of the cod fiſhery at Newfoundland.

In conſequence of which peace, the South Sea Company, in the ſame year, ſent out their great and rich annual ſhip to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, *i. e.* to Porto Bello and Carthagena; which, however, from many and various cauſes, did not anſwer the great hopes at firſt conceived of that voyage. The difficulties perpetually ſtarted by the court of Madrid, the avarice of the company's own ſervants, as well as that of the Spaniſh officers in America, were much more the occaſion of this voyage's not proving advantageous, than any want of prudent concert in the plan or deſign of it.

In this ſame year 1721, a final or definitive treaty of peace was concluded between Sweden and Ruſſia: whereby the former was obliged to confirm or yield to Ruſſia, what had been before conquered, the very beſt territory or jewel of the Swediſh crown, viz. Livonia, together with Eſthonia, Ingria, Carelia, and the town of Wyburg, with the iſles of Oeſel, Dragoe, and Moen. The Czar, on the other ſide, reſtored a part of Finland to Sweden, and alſo agreed to pay her two millions of rix-dollars, and that the Swedes ſhould be permitted annually to buy, cuſtom free, corn to the amount of fifty thouſand rubles, at Riga, Revel, and Wyburg.—In point of commerce, alſo, the Swedes were to be treated as the moſt favoured nation.

This treaty was a ſevere check to the commerce, and a very conſiderable diminution of the territory and power of Sweden, which ſhe has never ſince been able to regain.

An attempt was made, this ſame year, in the Parliament of Ireland, for erecting a public bank in that kingdom: but it was, in effect, rejected, as it was ſaid, purely for want of a ſufficient currency of caſh for circulating of bank notes there; and perhaps for ſome other more ſecret reaſons.—See the year 1723.

The wear of printed Indian calicoes in Britain, both in apparel and houſhold furniture, was at this time become ſo univerſal, as to be a great detriment and obſtruction to both the woollen and ſilk manufactures of the kingdom. This had occaſioned ſeveral riots and tumults of the weavers in London, &c. It was therefore found neceſſary to redreſs a grievance in which ſo many thouſand families were greatly intereſted. An act of Parliament was therefore paſſed, in

1721 this ſeventh year of King George the Firſt, cap. vii. To preſerve and encourage the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, &c. which abſolutely prohibited the wear thereof, under the penalty of five pounds for each offence on the wearer, and of twenty pounds on the ſeller.

And by an act of this ſame year, cap. xii. For employing the Manufacturers, and encouraging the Conſumption of Raw Silk and Mohair Yarn: the wearing of buttons or button-holes made of cloth or other ſtuff, was abſolutely prohibited.

The Oſtenders ſtill perſiſting to trade to the Eaſt Indies, the Britiſh Parliament, in this ſame year, paſſed an act, cap. xx. For the further preventing his Majeſty's Subjects from trading to the Eaſt Indies under foreign Commiſſions, &c. "Prohibiting the importation of tea from "any part of Europe, over and above all former reſtraints laid on Britiſh ſubjects from reſorting or trading to the Eaſt Indies under foreign commiſſions, with ſeveral other new additional "reſtraints and penalties." And, by the Dutch placarts, it was made death for any of their ſubjects to be concerned therein.

In this ſame year, by an act of the Britiſh Parliament, For raiſing a ſum not exceeding five hundred thouſand pounds, charged on the Civil Liſt Revenue, &c. there is a clauſe for diſcharging the two Aſſurance Companies, eſtabliſhed by charters in the year 1720, viz. the Royal Exchange and the London Aſſurance Companies, from ſo much of the ſum of three hundred thouſand pounds, which each of them was obliged to pay to the King's uſe, as now remained unpaid; in conſideration of the difficulties which thoſe two companies laboured under.

The ſecond volume, p. 220, of the Britiſh Merchant, re-publiſhed in this year 1721, makes the increaſe of the Britiſh ſilk manufacture to amount to ſeven hundred thouſand per annum in value more than it was at the revolution, in the year 1688; we importing, till that period, annually from France, to the value of five hundred thouſand pounds, in wrought ſilks of all kinds.

He adds, what was alſo well known, "That, till then, there was little elſe made in England but brown paper; whereas now there are two-thirds of all the white paper we uſe made "at home.

The increaſe of the French fiſhery on the Banks of Newfoundland, and in the neighbouring parts, was ſo great about this time, that the ſecond volume of the Britiſh Merchant, p. 290, alleges they employed yearly upwards of four hundred ſail of ſhips therein, from St. Malo, Granville, Rochelle, St. Martin's, Bayonne, St. Jean de Luz, Sibour, &c. Whereby they not only now ſupplied themſelves entirely with fiſh, which they formerly had from England, but likewiſe rival us much in the fiſh trade to Spain and Italy.

According to a Daniſh author, and zealous miſſionary to Old Greenland (Mr. Egede) the Greenland Company of Bergen in Norway, now ſent out a colony to re-ſettle Old Greenland, after a large Norwegian colony had been deſtroyed or otherwiſe loſt in that country, ſome hundreds of years before, as we have already related under the year 1348. Mr. Egede, who went with this new colony relates, that they found there ſome marks of old habitations, and of ancient tillage. He thinks that the old Norwegian colony muſt have been deſtroyed by the ſavage natives, or by an unuſual peſtilence; and that the country was forgotten by the Danes and Norwegians till the year 1619, when, as we have alſo related, ſome fruitleſs attempts were made from Copenhagen, to find out the country where that old colony had been ſettled.

A. D. 1721 After all, it is to be much doubted whether there be commercial materials in that moſt cold and barren country, ſufficient to induce any European nation to be at much expence in making a ſettlement there; where certain peltry and fiſh oil are probably its only product; and as the country is ſo very thin of inhabitants, and thoſe too very miſerable ones, we hear nothing further ſince, of the ſucceſs of that freſh attempt for colonizing in it till the year 1736.

A liſt of ſhips employed in this year 1721, in the whale fiſhery to Greenland and Davis's Streights, viz.

	Ships.
From ſeveral parts of Holland, — — —	251
From Hamburg, — — — —	55
From Bremen, — — — —	24
From the ports in the Bay of Biſcay, — —	20
From Bergen in Norway, — — —	5
Total,	355

This liſt, which was publiſhed at London at this time, probably, in part, encouraged the new South Sea court of directors to propoſe a whale fiſhery to their general courts, which however they did not finally agree to till three years after.

1722 In a Britiſh act of Parliament of the eighth year of King George the Firſt, For giving further Encouragement for the Importation of naval Stores, &c. its preamble declares,

I. " That, in conſequence of former legal encouragements, it is found by experience, that " great quantities of good and merchantable pitch and tar have been imported from the Britiſh " plantations in America, which have been found uſeful for the ſervice of his Majeſty's navy; " and that it is neceſſary to give further encouragement therein; ſo as the tar be clean and " merchantable, as herein further directed, for making of cordage.

II. " Moreover, it being probable, that the owners of large tracts of land in America and " in Scotland, lying near the ſea or on navigable rivers, would be induced to ſow the ſame " with hemp, if further encouragement were given for that purpoſe: it was therefore enacted, " that the premium of ſix pounds per ton of hemp, ſo raiſed and imported, be further continued for ſixteen years, and ſhall be free of all cuſtoms whatever.

III. " And whereas great quantities of wood and timber, and of the goods commonly " called lumber," of many ſeveral ſorts of wood therein enumerated, " have uſually been " imported into this kingdom, from foreign countries, at exceſſive prices, whereby foreigners have found opportunities to export the coin of the kingdom: and it is well known, " that the ſaid commodities, being of the growth and product of the Britiſh plantations in " America, may be furniſhed from thence; for encouragement thereof it was enacted, that " the ſaid timber goods be exported, duty free, from the ſaid plantations, for ninety-one " years to come: excepting maſts, yards, and bowſprits, touching which, duties and premiums are aſcertained by former acts in that behalf."

" The commiſſioners of the navy ſhall have the pre-emption or refuſal of the above-named " hemp, for twenty days after landing, for the uſe of the navy royal.

IV. " The laws already made for the preſervation of white pine trees, in his Majeſty's colonies in America, for the maſting of the royal navy, being found inſufficient, it was now " enacted, that no perſon ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any white pine trees in the

1722 " American provinces, named in former acts of Parliament," to which Nova Scotia was now added, " without the King's licence firſt obtained, under the ſeveral penalties for the various " ſized trees herein ſpecified."

In this year, according to Keyſler's Travels, the famous fine porcelain of Saxony was brought to perfection: being the invention of one Bottcher, a chymiſt, who died in the year 1719. But he carried it no further than to the white ſort: the art of making brown and blue porcelain not being found out till this year. This able author adds, that the invention of the Saxon porcelain was owing to alchymy.

In the ſame year, Captain Scroggs, from Churchill River fort in Hudſon's Bay, ſailed upon the diſcovery of a north-weſt paſſage, from that Bay to China, &c. as far as latitude ſixty-four degrees, fifty-ſix minutes, where, as he reported, the land fell off to the ſouthward of the weſt: ſuch of his people as went up to the top of a mountain, reported, that they ſaw nothing to obſtruct their going further. This was a lame account, (ſays Mr. Ellis's voyage, in the years 1746-7,) for why then did he not proceed?

Copper ore having been a few years before this time found in the Britiſh American province of New York; it was now, by an act of the eighth year of King George the Firſt, cap. xviii. To prevent the clandeſtine Running of Goods, &c. made an enumerated commodity; *i. e.* it was made liable to the like reſtraint of being firſt landed in ſome port of Great Britain, as ſugar, tobacco, &c. are, before re-exported. The ancient Peruvians had the uſe of copper tools, before they were conquered by the Spaniards; but this was the firſt diſcovery of copper in any of the Britiſh colonies of America.

The vaſt increaſe of buildings in the great weſtern ſuburbs of London, requiring a greater ſupply of freſh or ſweet water than the preſent works could furniſh; an act of Parliament of the ſaid eighth year of King George the Firſt, entitled, For better ſupplying the City and Liberties of Weſtminſter and Parts adjacent with Water; authoriſed a newly-erected company, which was named the Chelſea Water Company, to dig baſons, reſervoirs, &c. for bringing water from the river Thames to a place near Chelſea, and to convey the ſame by an ingenious engine, to another reſervoir in Hyde Park, from which laſt it is conveyed in pipes to ſeveral ſtreets and houſes: and the crown was hereby empowered to incorporate the undertakers, as was accordingly done in this ſame year.

The ſilk manufacture of England being brought to great perfection in all its branches, ſo as to equal the fineſt fabrications of any foreign nation, the Britiſh legiſlature now judged it proper to enact new encouragements to ſo noble a manufacture: by an act of the eighth year of King George the Firſt, cap. xv. For encouraging the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for promoting its exportation to foreign parts; by granting the following bounties thereon, for three years to come, viz.

		Pound weight, Averdupois.		
		£.	*s.*	*d.*
1.	For ribbons and ſtuffs of ſilk only, for each pound weight -	0	3	0
2.	Silks and ribbons of ſilk mixed with gold or ſilver -	0	4	0
3.	Silk ſtockings, gloves, fringes, laces, ſtitching or ſewing ſilk -	0	1	0
4.	Stuffs of ſilk and grogram-yarn - - - -	0	0	8
5.	Silk ſtuffs mixed with incle or cotton - - -	0	1	0
6.	Stuffs of ſilk and worſted - - - -	0	0	6

A. D. 1722 This encouragement was founded on the conſideration of raw and thrown ſilk's paying a conſiderable duty on its importation. And by a ſtatute of the ninth of this King, cap. viii. the mixed manufactures herein named were not to be entitled to the ſaid bounties, "ex-"cepting ſuch wherein at leaſt two-third parts of the ends or threads of the warp be either "all ſilk, or mixed and twiſted with ſilk." Both which ſtatutes have ſince been further prolonged.

By the firſt-named well judged ſtatute alſo, for the encouragement of the Britiſh manufactures in general, the ſeveral duties whatſoever, payable thereon at exportation, were to ceaſe and determine, although they were ſtill regularly to be entered at every cuſtom-houſe, excepting ſuch for which a ſpecial proviſion is therein after made, viz. alum, lead, tin, tanned leather, copperas, coals, wool cards, white woollen cloths, lapis calaminaris, ſkins of all ſorts, glue, coney wool, hare's wool, hair of all ſorts, horſes, and litharge of lead.

Moreover, for the further encouragement of Britiſh manufactures, by promoting the importation of drugs, &c. uſed in dying; all ſuch were, upon being firſt duly entered, to be duty free; (ſaltpetre always excepted) but on re-exportation of thoſe foreign dying ſtuffs, they were to pay the ſeveral duties therein ſpecified; leſt their being ſuffered to be exported duty-free ſhould prove a benefit to the manufacturers of foreign nations. Hereby alſo half the duty on beaver-ſkins, now with other furs made an enumerated commodity, was to be drawn back on re-exportation: and the duty on the pepper of our own Eaſt India Company, for home conſumption, which was before in all two ſhillings per pound weight, was now reduced to four-pence per pound weight.

By an act of Parliament, of this ſame eighth year of King George the Firſt, For paying off and cancelling one million of Exchequer-bills, and to give Eaſe to the South Sea Company, in reſpect to its Obligation to circulate Exchequer-bills, &c. and for Relief of the Sufferers at Nevis and St. Chriſtopher's, &c. further time was allowed to the South Sea Company, for their repaying to the public the million of Exchequer-bills formerly lent to them, and which was accordingly repaid the year following, and alſo ſeveral other regulations are therein made concerning Exchequer-bills, not material to our ſubject. Therein alſo there was an intereſt fixed, at the rate of three per cent. yearly, on the united principal and large arrear of intereſt due to the ſufferers of Nevis and St. Chriſtopher's, by the French in Queen Anne's war.

By the authority of another act of this year, To enable the South Sea Company to diſpoſe of the Effects in their Hands, &c. they ſold to the Bank of England four millions of their capital ſtock, attended with five per cent. intereſt, or a yearly intereſt of two hundred thouſand pounds, whereby the whole South Sea capital ſtock was reduced to thirty-three millions eight hundred and two thouſand four hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings. (An error of four hundred pounds had been diſcovered in the ſubſcriptions). Whereupon the Bank takes in a ſubſcription for ſale of this newly-ingrafted ſtock at one hundred and eighteen pounds per cent. ſo that in their corporate capacity they gained ſix hundred and ten thouſand one hundred and ſixty-nine pounds ten ſhillings Bank ſtock: and the ſaid ſtock, thus ſold at eighteen per cent. advance, amounting to three millions three hundred and eighty-nine thouſand eight hundred and thirty pounds ten ſhillings, produced in money the exact ſum due to the South Sea Company, being four millions of pounds. The whole Bank capital due from the public hereby amounted to nine millions three hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand and twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten-pence halfpenny, of which capital the ſum of one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds was entitled to ſix per cent. intereſt till the

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1722 year 1742; the reſt, with all the remaining South Sea capital, was to be reduced to four per cent. from and after Midſummer 1727.

By an abſtract of the public debts, by Archibald Hutcheſon, Eſquire, for the year 1722, publiſhed in the year 1723, it appears,

				£.	s.	d.
I. That the groſs amount of the Poſt-office annual revenue, was				201,804	1	8
II. There was to be deducted for frank covers to letters	33,397	12	3			
III. For the expence of management —	70,396	1	5			
				103,793	13	8
IV. The Poſt-office's net produce at Michaelmas 1722 —				98,010	8	0

By another act of Parliament of this year, To prevent the Miſchiefs by forging Powers to transfer any Stocks, &c. it was made Felony to forge or procure to be forged any Letter of Attorney, for transferring of any Stocks or Shares of Corporations eſtabliſhed by Act of Parliament,—or to receive any Dividends thereon,—or to perſonate any real Proprietor. This law was occaſioned by a fraudulent letter of attorney, for transferring ſome South Sea ſtock in the year 1720, though not diſcovered till fourteen months after. Whereupon the South Sea general court, after much debate, reſolved, (upon a ballot of one thouſand four hundred and fifty-ſeven votes againſt one hundred and ſixty,) " That every proprietor who has had, or " ſhall have ſtock transferred to him in the company's transfer-books, be entitled to the ſum " ſo transferred, upon his producing a receipt for the ſame, witneſſed by the clerk attending " the transfer books: provided there appears no fraud on the part of the purchaſer."

In December 1722, the German Emperor, Charles the Sixth, firſt granted his octroi, privilege, or charter, for an Eaſt India Company at Oſtend, which had hitherto been only connived at by him. Whereupon a capital of ſix millions of florins was ſubſcribed, and ſhips were now more openly ſent out, which returned with ladings of Eaſt India merchandize, to the great loſs of both the Engliſh and Dutch Eaſt India Companies in the ſales of their goods: of which both nations loudly complained.

The Hollanders, more eſpecially and moſt vehemently, inſiſted, and plainly made it appear, that the ſaid grant was directly repugnant to the treaty of Munſter, by which the King of Spain, then ſovereign of the Netherlands, obliged himſelf and his ſucceſſors, as ſuch, never to extend their navigation or commerce in India beyond the then acknowledged limits: the Spaniards and Dutch to keep within the bounds agreed to, viz. The Spaniards not to ſail to India from Europe: and the Dutch only thither by the Cape of Good Hope; " that therefore the Auſtrian Netherlands, as well as Arragon, Naples, Sicily, and other ſubjects of " the Spaniſh crown, were thereby barred from trading to India: and that the Emperor, as " ſovereign of the ten Netherland provinces, is likewiſe bound hereby; ſince the maritime " powers conquered thoſe provinces for him, merely on the ground of his right to the Spaniſh " monarchy, and could hold thoſe provinces no otherwiſe than the Kings of Spain held " them.

" By the twenty-ſixth article alſo of the barrier treaty, this ſame Emperor ſtipulates, that " every thing relating to commerce, ſhould remain as ſtipulated by the treaty of Munſter. " That, on the part of England, it was clear, that, by the eighth article of the treaty of " Madrid, between England and Spain, in the year 1670, Spain ſtipulates, that the King of

" Great

A. D. 1722 " Great Britain and his ſubjects ſhall enjoy every benefit granted to the Hollanders by the " treaty of Munſter; and conſequently hereby, as well as by the ſaid barrier treaty, the Engliſh Company, as well as their ſovereign, have an undoubted right to oppoſe this Oſtend " trade to India."

And the Britiſh legiſlature, by a ſtatute of the next year, the ninth of King George, To prevent his Majeſty's Subjects from ſubſcribing, or being concerned in encouraging or promoting any Subſcription for an Eaſt India Company in the Auſtrian Netherlands; and for the better ſecuring the lawful Trade of his Majeſty's Subjects to and from the Eaſt Indies, cap. xxvi. enacted, " That every Britiſh ſubject who ſhall ſubſcribe to the ſtock of the Oſtend " Company, ſhall forfeit the ſame and treble the value thereof: one-third to the crown, and " two-thirds to the Engliſh Eaſt India Company. Britiſh ſubjects found in India, other " than ſuch as ſhall be lawfully authoriſed, or within our Eaſt India Company's limits, are " hereby declared guilty of an high crime and miſdemeanor, and to be liable to ſuch corporal " puniſhment or impriſonment, and for ſuch time as the court where they ſhall be tried ſhall " think fit, &c." But theſe warm arguments did not as yet effectually prevail.

In the ſame year 1722, his Majeſty of Great Britain did, by his patent, grant the Weſt India iſlands of St. Lucia and St. Vincents, to the late John Duke of Montague. Whereupon that public-ſpirited Duke ſent over two governors for thoſe iſlands, with ſecretaries and other officers, to the number of fifty-one perſons in all, beſide four hundred and twenty-five ſervants, with all kinds of ſtores, proviſions, artillery, &c. in ſix ſhips, under convoy of a King's ſhip of war, very compleatly fitted and provided for ſuch a new colony. But they had no ſooner begun to clear the ground for a fort in St. Lucia, in December 1722, than they had notice from the governor of Martinico, that his expreſs orders from his maſter, the French King, were to diſlodge them by force, unleſs they withdrew from the iſland in fifteen days time: for which purpoſe two thouſand men were landed from Martinico, and five hundred from Guadaloupe: and Mr. Uring, the Engliſh governor, finding that his men were, by ſickneſs and deſertion, reduced to no more than ſeventy in number, who were fit to bear arms, he judged it prudent, on due conſultation, to abandon the iſlands on the fourteenth of January following; but very ſenſibly ſtipulated with the French commander, that the French forces ſhould, in like manner, leave the iſle of St. Lucia in its former neutral ſtate and condition, until there ſhould be a final deciſion made between the two crowns. Upon which, one obvious remark is ſufficient, viz.

That either certain previous ſtipulations ſhould have been made between the two crowns, for that noble Duke's people to be peaceably permitted to ſettle on thoſe iſles, or elſe a much greater force ſhould have been ſent to protect them: the iſle of St Lucia being ſo near to Martinico, that the French would probably hazard even a war with Britain, rather than let us poſſeſs and improve it: ſince we ſhould have been enabled by ſuch a poſſeſſion further to ſecure our Leeward Iſlands; as no conſiderable armament could be made at Martinico, but what would be preſently known at St. Lucia.

This unhappy expedition is ſaid to have coſt the Duke no leſs a ſum than forty thouſand pounds, the greateſt and moſt expenſive undertaking attempted by any one ſubject in Chriſtendom, on his own account; wherein five hundred and ten tradeſmen and ſervants were maintained by his grace for a year and an half, and upwards of fifty officers. The tradeſmen being allowed from twenty-five pounds to thirty pounds per annum for wages alone; and the officers ſalaries being from fifty pounds to four hundred pounds per annum, beſide the ſhipping,

A. D. 1722 ping, proviſions, ammunition, artillery, military and naval ſtores, &c. It is certain that the iſlands of St. Lucia, St. Vincents, and Dominica, always have been, till within theſe few years, included in the governor of Barbadoes commiſſion, the title of which was uſed to run thus, viz. "Captain General and Governor of Barbadoes, and the reſt of the Caribbee Iſles "to the windward of Guadaloupe."

N. B. In November 1730, according to a work, entitled, The Britiſh Empire in America, we find the following inſtructions from his Majeſty King George the Second to Mr. Worſley, governor of Barbadoes, relating to St. Lucia, viz.

"Whereas the French, for ſome years, have claimed a right to the iſland of St. Lucia, and "do inſiſt that the right to the iſlands of St. Vincent and Dominica, under your government, "is in the Caribbeans now inhabiting the ſame, although we have an undoubted right to all "the ſaid iſlands, yet we have thought fit to agree with the French court, that, until our right "ſhall be determined, the ſaid iſlands ſhall be entirely evacuated by both nations. You are "accordingly to ſignify the ſame to ſuch of our ſubjects as ſhall be found inhabiting any of "our ſaid iſlands, that they do forthwith quit the ſame until the right ſhall be determined as "aforeſaid. And you are to uſe your beſt endeavours, that no ſhips of our ſubjects, nor of "any other nation, do frequent the ſaid iſlands during the time aforeſaid, excepting only for "wood and water."

In the very next month, viz. in December the ſame year 1730, (that we may take in all at once what relates to this ſubject) the French King's inſtructions to his governor of Martinico, Monſieur de Champigny, are in ſubſtance, "That the Engliſh have, for ſome years paſt, "laid or made pretenſions to the iſland of St. Lucia," the French call it St. Alouzie, "which "belongs to me, and to which I have an inconteſtable right: the ſame pretenſions they have "laid to the iſlands of St. Vincent and Dominica, which belong to the Caribbeans, natives "of the country, according to the treaty of the thirty-firſt of March 1660; and in the poſ"ſeſſion whereof it is my intention to ſupport them: I have nevertheleſs agreed with the "court of England, that until thoſe pretenſions ſhall be determined, the ſaid iſland ſhall be "evacuated by both nations. And it is my pleaſure, that you make this known, &c."

We have already given, at various times, ſomewhat of the hiſtory of the iſland of St. Lucia, and ſome account alſo of Dominica. That of St. Vincent is ſomewhat more obſcure. It lies to the ſouthward of St. Lucia. When Governor Uring, before-mentioned, ſent his counſellor, Mr. Egerton, thither, to prepare its inhabitants for ſubmiſſion to the Britiſh crown, he found two ſorts of people there in great numbers, viz. the native Caribbeans, who are the Aborigines or primitive poſſeſſors thereof; and the negroes, the deſcendants of a cargo of ſlaves, from Africa, who had been ſhipwrecked there about ſeventy years before; and who, by the acceſſion of other negroes, fugitives from the neighbouring European ſettlements, were become a numerous race, *i. e.* about ſix thouſand men, women, and children. Their government was republican, viz. by chiefs or leaders by election. The Indians, or native Caribbeans, he found to conſiſt of about eight thouſand perſons; they inhabited ſeveral pretty villages and ſeemed to live in plenty. They ſeemed alſo to be a determined people for liberty and independence, any further than at that time their acknowledging the protection of the French at Martinico, which the latter gladly afforded them, purpoſely for preventing their putting themſelves under the protection of any other European nation.

In this ſame year, the general court of the African Company made a call of five pounds on every one hundred pounds nominal ſtock, for vigorouſly carrying on their trade: and the ſame

A. D. 1722 ſame court moſt unſagaciouſly reſolved, that a dividend of one and a half per cent. per ann. be made to the proprietors of their ſtock.

The interfering of the Oſtend Eaſt India Company, and many other difficulties, did at this time oblige the Engliſh Eaſt India Company to reduce their half yearly dividend from five to four per cent.

1723 Although four millions of the South Sea capital ſtock had been ingrafted, as we have ſhewn, into the capital ſtock of the Bank of England, yet ſtill that company's capital was judged too large, viz. thirty-one millions eight hundred and two thouſand four hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings. At general courts their numbers had already been, and might hereafter be, tumultuous: the legiſlature, therefore, judging that inconveniencies were likely to ariſe from the great number of proprietors, it was determined to divide the capital into two equal moieties: by an act of the ninth of King George the Firſt, "For reviving and adding "two millions to the ſaid capital ſtock,—and for dividing their whole capital," after ſuch addition made, "into two equal moieties, &c." The ſaid two millions were hereby accordingly carried to each proprietor's account, making one ſixteenth part, or ſix pounds five ſhillings per cent. and the capital, thus again made up thirty-three millions eight hundred and two thouſand four hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings, in conſideration of the proprietors great loſſes from the bad execution of the ſcheme, was alſo hereby entitled to all arrears of intereſt, from and after Midſummer 1722; and the whole was, from and after Midſummer 1723, to be divided into two equal moieties.

	£.	s.	d.
The one moiety being - - - - -	16,901,241	17	0
To be converted into a joint-ſtock, to be called South Sea annuities, attended with five per cent. intereſt till Midſummer 1727, when they ſhall be reduced to four per cent. and be further redeemable by Parliament. The other moiety to remain a capital, or joint trading ſtock in the company, attended with the remaining yearly fund, redeemable likewiſe after Midſummer 1727 - - - -	16,901,241	17	0
The total of both, as above, being	£. 33,802,483	14	0

Notwithſtanding which diviſion by this act, yet the real amount of each moiety was ſettled as follows, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
South Sea Annuities - -	16,901,240	1	8
South Sea Stock - - -	16,901,243	12	4

The difference of three pounds ten ſhillings and eight pence ariſing from leaving the odd penny of every proprietor's ſtock with his moiety of the capital trading ſtock.

The firſt payment of a quarter's intereſt, on the ſaid joint-ſtock of South Sea annuities, being one one-fourth per cent. was to be at Michaelmas 1723; and from thence there were to be half yearly payments thereon, at Lady-day and Michaelmas yearly, as on the other moiety, to remain capital South Sea ſtock, the dividends were to be and remain as before, at Midſummer and Chriſtmas yearly.

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1723 In this year, the South Sea Company ſent out for La Vera Cruz, in Spaniſh Mexico, their richly laden annual ſhip, named the Royal Prince.

The abuſes committed by the inhabitants of a pretended privileged place, adjoining to the Borough of Southwark, near London, called Suffolk Place, or the Mint, had been long complained of, and was at length become a very great grievance. Such great numbers of debtors ſheltering themſelves therein from the purſuit of their creditors, were now become ſo audacious as to bid open defiance to the officers appointed to put the laws in execution. It was now therefore become high time to put an end to ſo ſhameful an abuſe, and to prevent the like for the future. This was accordingly done by an act of Parliament of the ninth of King George the Firſt, cap. xxviii. For the more effectual Execution of Juſtice in a pretended privileged Place, in the Pariſh of St. George, in the County of Surry, commonly called the Mint, &c. whereby it was made felony to obſtruct the execution of any writ, rule, or order of any court of law or of equity, or of any eſcape warrant, or warrants of juſtices:—and the Sheriff of Surry was impowered to raiſe the *poſſe comitatus*, for the taking by force any debtor out of the ſaid mint: and ſeveral other regulations are, in the ſaid ſtatute, ordained for effectually preventing that or any other place from committing ſuch open breaches of law and order for the future. So that from this time forward, there was an end to ſuch pretended privileged places or ſanctuaries any where in Great Britain or Ireland, for the ſheltering or ſcreening of debtors from the due courſe of law.

In this year, Mr. William Wood, whom we have elſewhere mentioned as a great proprietor in the iron and copper works, having obtained a patent for the coining of ſo large a quantity of copper halfpence and farthings, for the uſe of the kingdom of Ireland, as to the amount of one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling, both houſes of the Parliament of that kingdom, in their addreſſes to the King, warmly repreſented, "That, under colour of the ſaid patent, great "quantities of halfpence of different impreſſions, and of much leſs weight than is required "by the patent, had been imported and attempted to be uttered in this kingdom:—And that "even although the terms of the ſaid patent had been ſtrictly complied with, there would have "been a loſs to the nation of at leaſt one hundred and fifty per cent. by the ſaid coinage, and "much greater in the manner the ſaid halfpence have been coined."

For our parts, we do not well comprehend how one hundred and fifty pounds can be loſt on one hundred pounds; wherefore this one hundred and fifty per cent. muſt be relative to ſome other part of the repreſentation, or elſe there muſt have been ſome miſtake in tranſcribing this parliamentary repreſentation: but, waving that, we ſhall only briefly obſerve, that Mr. Wood alleged, in his own vindication, that both by the patent of King Charles the Second in the year 1680, and by that of King James the Second in the year 1684, a halfpenny was to weigh one hundred and ten grains, whereas Mr. Wood's halfpenny weighed one hundred and ſixteen grains and three quarters, and was better copper than the ſaid halfpence; but he is ſilent as to the Parliament's objection of the quantity of copper in his halfpenny being leſs than required by the patent. In fine, ſuch a ſpirit was raiſed in Ireland, both within doors and without, and by pamphlets, newſpapers, &c. againſt that new copper coin, partly becauſe the patent was given to one who was not a native of Ireland, and that the ſaid coin was altogether ſtamped in England: and partly alſo, that ſince a great profit was to be made, that benefit ſhould not have accrued principally to the public, which reaſon we confeſs ſeems to carry great weight with it; and, we may add, likewiſe, that great pains had been taken by party men in Ireland, to inflame the people there againſt receiving or paſſing the ſaid new copper money in any payments:

A. D. 1723 ments: that his Majeſty, in compliance with the repreſentations of the Parliament of Ireland, and the then general diſpoſition and inclination of the people of that kingdom, was pleaſed to revoke his ſaid patent, ſo far as that, inſtead of one hundred thouſand pounds in copper coin, Mr. Wood might be permitted to ſend to Ireland only forty thouſand pounds in all, to be current only to ſuch as pleaſed voluntarily to accept of them; though to Mr. Wood's conſiderable detriment. Yet, if the repreſentations of Mr. Wood be true, that the whole current caſh of Ireland does not exceed four hundred thouſand pounds, and that the cuſtoms, exciſe, hearth-money, and quit-rents amount to five hundred thouſand pounds per annum, ſo as that one-fourth part more than all the ſaid current caſh of that kingdom is annually paid into their Exchequer; then, ſurely, this addition of one hundred thouſand pounds to the current caſh of the kingdom would have been a benefit to trade. And that if Mr. Wood's coin was not to be received, they ſhould ſeriouſly have ſet about the ſubſtituting a competent quantity of other copper coin in its ſtead.

Notwithſtanding a rebellion which broke out in the year 1715, and a dangerous conſpiracy againſt the eſtabliſhed conſtitution, diſcovered at the cloſe of the preceding year 1722, yet ſuch is the ſpirit and genius of the Britiſh nation for commerce, that it was ſeen and obſerved by all inquiſitive people, to be ſtill conſtantly flouriſhing. Eraſmus Philips, Eſquire, an author then of good credit, gives us an inſtance thereof in his pamphlet, publiſhed in the year 1726, ſecond edition, entitled, The State of the Nation in Reſpect of her Commerce, Debts, and Money, which acquaints us, that from the year 1701 to the year 1723, the amount of the Britiſh cuſtoms was ſo conſiderable, that the net money paid into the Exchequer, on an average, or one year with another, for the ſaid twenty-three years, was one million four hundred and forty-ſix thouſand and twenty-two pounds per annum, even excluſive of ſeizures: which account nearly coincides with that before exhibited in the year 1715. And with ſeizures it amounted to one million four hundred and ſixty-ſeven thouſand five hundred and ninety-three pounds net money per annum.

The ſaid Mr. Philips, in his above quoted pamphlet, gives us the quantity of ſilver and gold coined in the Tower of London, between the years 1701 and 1724, in ſilver, only one hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand four hundred and ſixty-four pounds weight; and in gold no leſs than two hundred and forty-one thouſand one hundred and eighty-three pounds weight; which valuing a pound of gold at forty-four pounds ſterling, makes the gold coined in England in twenty-three years time to amount in value to ten millions ſix hundred and twelve thouſand and fifty-two pounds ſterling. Which vaſt coinage of gold in thoſe years was owing to our putting too high a value on gold in proportion to ſilver, whereby foreign nations were encouraged to import gold upon us in exchange for our ſilver. Which inconvenience, as we have ſeen, was remedied by reducing guineas from one pound one ſhilling and ſix pence to one pound one ſhilling, by the advice of Sir Iſaac Newton.

After the confuſion and ſhameful jumble of the French Company or Society of the Indies, made by the authority of the Duke of Orleans, Regent of France, during the minority of King Louis XV. which conſolidated company was compoſed of the original capital of the Weſtern Company, and of twenty-five millions of livres added thereto, upon the union of the Eaſt India Company therewith; it was in this year 1723, judged requiſite, for reſtoring things to ſome order, that a reviſion ſhould be made of the actions poſſeſſed by the proprietors of this ſame conſolidated company, for diſtinguiſhing, as was ſpeciouſly alleged, between ſuch as had acquired their property fairly, and by purchaſe, and ſuch as had by ſtock-jobbing forced them-

1723 themſelves into the company's books. For this purpoſe the King fixed the capital at one hundred and twelve millions of livres, the annual intereſt on which was fixed, if any thing can be called fixed in France but the power of their Monarch, at eight millions; to be paid out of the farm of tobacco, and the profit of the furs from Canada. And the commerce of the Indies was aſſigned to that company as a collateral ſecurity for the preſent, to be employed for enlarging the funds and for diſcharging the incumbrances thereon.—Yet, till many years after, the Eaſt India trade of France was managed in a very languid manner, they having been obliged to pay off many old debts, to rebuild their ſhips and factories, and to lay out above fifteen millions for the improving of Louiſiana, and for compleating the ſuperb works of Port l'Orient.—But Orry being placed at the head of the French finances, in the year 1737, he ſo effectually ſupported and improved the Eaſt India Company, that their public ſale at Port l'Orient in 1742, amounted to twenty-four millions of livres, or about one million ſterling, which greatly alarmed England and Holland, who did not at firſt know that all this fine appearance was chiefly ſupported by the crown, until the war with England in the year 1744, obliged Orry to declare to the company, "that they muſt now ſtand on their own legs." Notwithſtanding all which, and the ſtop of their dividends at that time, they have ſince vaſtly improved their Eaſt India Commerce and power there, even almoſt to the preſent time.

1724 After much debate in ſeveral of the general courts of the South Sea Company, concerning the utility of attempting a Greenland trade or whale fiſhery, wherein it was too plainly ſhewn, that former Greenland companies were ſo unſucceſsful as to have run out their entire ſtock or capital; and that ſome foreign nations have many advantages over our people in reſpect to this fiſhery; this company at length reſolved to commence the ſaid fiſhery.

This was certainly a well intended and popular reſolution, and was agreeable to the powers granted by the firſt act of Parliament, and to the royal charter, for erecting of this company, as well as to part of the denomination or title given to it by the ſaid royal charter. In order for the better ſucceeding therein the company had procured an act of Parliament, of this tenth year of King George the Firſt, cap. xvi. For encouraging the Greenland Fiſhery: "whereby the duty of three pence per pound on whale-fins was repealed; and that whale-fins, "oil and blubber of whales, caught and imported in Britiſh ſhips, whereof the commander "and at leaſt one-third of the mariners to be Britiſh ſubjects, ſhould abſolutely be cuſtom-free "for ſeven years, from Chriſtmas 1724."

And by an act of Parliament of the twelfth of this King, cap. xxvi. "This freedom from "all cuſtom was extended to Davis's Streights and the ſeas adjacent, and alſo comprehended "therein ſeal oil, ſeal ſkins, or any other produce of ſeals, or other fiſh or creatures, taken "or caught in any of the ſaid ſeas." Which ſaid paragraph had alſo in view the large white bears ſo commonly found on the ice there; and alſo ſea horſes or morſes, very numerous in thoſe ſeas.

Yet, it being too late for the fiſhery of the preſent year, they directed twelve fine ſhips, of three hundred and ſix tons each, to be built upon the river Thames, and proper quantities of hemp from Riga, and caſk ſtaves from Hamburg, to be got ready for the enſuing ſpring: the company having alſo hired the Duke of Bedford's great wet dock at Deptford, for the uſe of their ſhips and ſtores, and for curing of their oil and whale fins.

In this ſame year 1724, the South Sea Company alſo ſent out their rich annual ſhip for Carthagena and Porto-bello, in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies.

A. D. 1724 We think it may at this time be proper to take notice of the increaſe of the famous fund erected by the Britiſh Parliament in the yeaa 1717, named the Sinking Fund, which increaſe proceeded from the ſurpluſſes of the other three already deſcribed funds, viz. the Aggregate, the General, and the South Sea Funds, either by paying off part of their capital or principal debt, or elſe by a reduction of the rate of their intereſt payable by the public. The ſaid ſinking fund, therefore, we may obſerve, was, on the thirty-firſt of December 1724, increaſed to ſix hundred and fifty-three thouſand pounds, which fund will be much more conſiderably encreaſed from and after Midſummer 1727, as will be ſeen in due time.

In the cloſe of this ſame year 1724, the Emperor Charles VI. executed and again confirmed The Pragmatic Sanction and perpetual Law, with regard to the Rule and Order of the Succeſſion and indiſſoluble Union of all his hereditary Kingdoms and Provinces, which he had ſettled in the year 1713, ſo as they ſhould always remain cloſely united under one ſole perſon, viz. on his daughter, the late Empreſs Queen. "For preventing the diſmembering and diviſion thereof among the heirs of our auguſt family," ſays he, "either within Germany or without; ſo as to be a perpetual and irrevocable law: that the eldeſt male heir, and in failure of male, the eldeſt female heir, ſhall for ever ſucceed to all the dominions of the houſe of Auſtria."

This was thought a good means for preſerving an equilibrium of power in Europe; and ſo far we have judged proper to mention it, as we think it a benefit to the general commerce of the world; ſince, without ſuch an equilibrium of power, the freedom of commerce might hereafter be overturned, by the mere will of ſome one over-grown tyrant. This famous Pragmatic Sanction was ſolemnly agreed to by moſt of the potentates of Europe, before that Emperor's death, although it has ſince appeared to have been little regarded even by potentates who guaranteed it by the moſt ſolemn treaties.

1725 In the year 1725, the South Sea Company commenced their unfortunate whale fiſhery. Their twelve new ſhips brought home twenty-five whales and a half: and, though this was ſcarcely a ſaving voyage, it was, neverthleſs, the very beſt year of any of the eight in which they carried on that fiſhery. It muſt, however, be obſerved, that the nation having entirely relinquiſhed this trade for ſo many years paſt, there was not an Engliſhman to be found who knew any thing of the Greenland or whale fiſhery. The company was therefore under the neceſſity of having all their commanders, harpooners, boat-ſteerers, line-veerers, and blubber-cutters from Fohrde in Holſtein, ſome few natives of Scotland excepted, who on this occaſion left the ſervice of the Hollanders, who had before this time been conſtantly employed either by Hamburgers, Bremers, or Hollanders. Thoſe Holſteiners coſt the company this year three thouſand and fifty-ſix pounds eighteen ſhillings and three pence, although but one hundred and fifty-two in number; not only becauſe they were all what is uſually called officers in that fiſhery, and conſequently had more wages and allowances than the common ſailors, but had alſo their charges borne by the company, both in coming every year from and returning back to Holſtein to their families, as was alſo their conſtant practice when employed by other nations: whereas above double their number, viz. three hundred and fifty-three Britiſh ſubjects employed on thoſe twelve ſhips, coſt but three thouſand one hundred and fifty-one pounds fifteen ſhillings and five pence.

In this ſame year 1725, was paſſed an act of the Britiſh Parliament of the eleventh of King George the Firſt, cap. ix. For continuing the ſeveral Annuities to the Bank of England until Midſummer 1727, &c.—Whereby the yearly fund on the principal ſums of one million ſeven

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1725 hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand and twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten pence halfpenny, and of two millions due to that corporation, were reduced from five to four per cent. from and after Midſummer 1727; and all the funds of the Bank were put on an equal footing with thoſe of the South Sea Company; excepting only the Bank's original capital of one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds which ſtill remained at ſix per cent.

This act made it felony to alter, forge, or counterfeit Bank Notes, or to eraſe or alter any endorſement thereon; or to tender in payment, utter, vend, exchange, or barter, any ſuch Bank Note, knowing the ſame to be altered, forged, eraſed, or counterfeited, with intention to defraud the Bank, or any other perſon or body-politic.

About this time, the French firſt began to ſupply, in conſiderable quantities, the European markets with their ſugars from Martinico, Hiſpaniola, &c. formerly and almoſt totally ſupplied by us, though in part they are ſtill ſupplied by the Portugueſe Braſil ſugars, and, of late, by the Dutch, from Surinam. And, in a few years after, by their great application, they gained from us almoſt all, or the greateſt part of that very profitable branch of commerce.

The anonymous author of, The preſent State of the Britiſh and French Sugar Colonies, printed in the year 1740, makes the French ſugars exported to the European markets amount to ſo vaſt a quantity as eighty thouſand hogſheads yearly. And that the Indigo raiſed by the French in their Weſt India colonies amounts in value to one million of ſterling money; three-fourths of which they ſell to other nations:—and they alſo export to other European nations, in cocoa, cotton, ginger, rum, (he might have added coffee, &c.) about two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds yearly. To all which let there be added the freight thereon—the great number of perſons both in Europe and America, as well as in their ſhips, conſtantly maintained thereby—the great conſumption of the product and manufactures of France, both in the Weſt Indies, and on the African coaſts for the purchaſe of their ſlaves; and then we need not wonder, that even ſo long ago as the year 1701, the then new French council of Commerce, in a memorial, could ſay, “ that the navigation of France owed all its increaſe “ and ſplendour to the commerce of its ſugar iſlands; and that it could not be kept up and “ enlarged otherwiſe than by that commerce.”

1726 Twelve more ſhips being built by the South Sea Company, they, in the year 1726, ſent out their whole twenty-four ſhips on their ſecond voyage on the whale fiſhery, to Greenland and Davis's Streights. In which they ſucceeded conſiderably worſe than in their firſt voyage, having brought home but ſixteen whales and an half.

The meaning of the half-whale here and elſewhere is, when two ſhips, perhaps of different nations, happen to ſtrike the ſame whale, which by common cuſtom is equally divided between them.

In Mr. Philips's State of the Nation in reſpect to her Commerce, Debts, and Money, already quoted, he gives us a ſummary view of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company's trade, and of its benefits to the public; about which, however, people are ſtill far from being of the ſame opinion.

I. He ſays, “ The Company's ſales have for many years paſt exceeded two millions two “ hundred thouſand pounds yearly:” which is probably true, conſiſting of wrought and raw ſilk, callicoes, ſaltpetre, drugs, tea, coffee, cotton and cotton-yarn, Carmenia wool, &c.

II. “ That one million thereof may probably be conſumed at home.”—This, it is to be feared, is rather computed under the mark.

III. “ That

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III. "That the Company's exports annually to India are to the value of five hundred thou-"ſand pounds in bullion and manufactures." This is but a ſtrange jumble, to mix bullion and manufactures together in one groſs ſum, which are always eſteemed the reverſe of each other.

IV. "To the million conſumed at home, he adds, four hundred thouſand pounds to be de-"ducted for the drawback allowed at the cuſtom-houſe upon the one million two hundred "thouſand pounds re-exported." And concludes,

V. "That the remaining eight hundred thouſand pounds is, or ſhould be the annual gain "to the nation by the Eaſt India trade."

Now, to this balance of national gain, ought certainly to have been added the total of our manufactures exported to India.

What he adds is very true, "That the company's trade maintains very many people at "home, as well as conſiderable numbers of our people in India, who bring home much "wealth to their native country." But what he ſays about our Eaſt India trade's having brought down the price of other European wares which we uſed, before we entered into it, ſeems of little conſideration in this ſtate of the company. "Moreover, ſays he, "if the ſaid "Eaſt India merchandize re-exported do pay or anſwer for ſuch European goods, for which, "without this trade, we muſt have paid in caſh, it is in effect the ſame as if it brought in ſo "much caſh or bullion. As this trade alſo furniſhes us with what otherwiſe we muſt neceſ-"ſarily have bought of the Dutch," (meaning, we preſume, ſaltpetre, pepper, and drugs,) "poſſibly the nation's yearly profit by it may be near one million ſterling.

Laſtly, "In contemplation of the vaſt exportation of ſilver from all Europe to the Eaſt In-"dies, there buried ſince 1602, ſo as never to return, computed to the amount of one hundred "and fifty millions ſterling; had that vaſt ſum remained to this day in Europe, whereby our "proportion of caſh would have been treble to what it now is, the conſequence would have "been,—that commodities and labour would, probably, have riſen in a treble proportion; "and, in effect," according to him, "we ſhould not have been richer in ſuch a caſe than "we are at preſent."

He has, however, forgotten:

Firſt, The national benefit from a very great annual ſum paid for the cuſtoms of Eaſt India goods conſumed at home, ſaid to amount to above three hundred thouſand pounds. And,

Secondly, That a conſiderable part of the million of Eaſt India commodities, annually conſumed or remaining at home, is worked up in our great and very profitable manufactures of ſilk and cotton, and much of the drugs are alſo employed therein.

In this ſame year, King George the Firſt, upon the humble petition of the Eaſt India Company, granted them a new charter of confirmation: with ample powers for them to erect a corporation at Fort St. George, by the name of, The Mayor and Aldermen of Madraſpatan in the Eaſt Indies. And another corporation at and within the factory and town of Bombay, by the name of, The Mayor and Aldermen of Bombay. Alſo a third corporation, within the factory of Fort William in Bengal, by the name of, The Mayor and Aldermen of Calcutta at Fort William in Bengal.—With perpetual ſucceſſion to each of the ſaid three corporations,—a common ſeal—a power to make by-laws, as well as to try cauſes both civil and criminal, high-treaſon excepted.

Mr. Philips, in his publication already mentioned, ſpeaking of the circulation of money, ſuppoſes, "That France is to England as eight is to three.—That their ſpecie," *i. e.* money, "is perhaps proportionable. Yet there is a greater ſhew of money in England than in France;

"but

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1726 " but if the circulation of France were equal to that of England, France would appear of " courſe ſo much richer than England."

	£.
" 1. Poſſibly," ſays he, " the real yearly rents of England may be - " it being ſuppoſed that our lands are not taxed at half their value.	20,000,000
" 2. The cuſtoms of England produce annually about - -	1,600,000
" 3. Which cuſtoms, on an average of thirty per cent. *ad valorem*, make the " value of our annual imports to be about - - -	5,300,000
" 4. And our re-exportations may be about - - -	1,500,000
" 5. The other duties and funds may be about - -	2,199,328
" 6. If there be eight millions of people in England, I believe I ſhall not ex- " ceed in ſuppoſing them to conſume in manufactures about - -	16,000,000
" 7. Now although the intereſt ariſing from mortgaged lands be included in " the before-named rental, yet the mortgages themſelves are often transferred, " and may therefore be deemed money in circulation: and theſe have been com- " puted at one-fifteenth part of the whole value of the lands, or about -	26,000,000
" 8. The national debt about - - - -	53,000,000
" 9. The malt-tax about - - - -	600,000
" So that the whole money tranſactions of this nation ſeem to be about	126,199,328

This Mr. Philips ſpeaks of as a ſtupendous thought.

Now although this computation may in general be thought liable to ſome exception, yet ſome parts of it may hereafter ſtrike out new lights, or at leaſt ſtart new thoughts, for more correct computations.

Whilſt Britain and the States General of the United Netherlands were remonſtrating at Vienna, and promulgating acts of Parliament and placarts againſt the continuance of the Oſtend Company's trading to India, that company's general court or aſſembly reſolves in this year to make a dividend of twelve per cent. to their proprietors, and to maintain their then ſettlement at Coblore, on the coaſt of Coromandel, and their factories at Bengal, and their trade to Canton in China. Nevertheleſs, we ſhall ſoon ſee an end put to that company: For, although neither gratitude for paſt benefits, nor regard for the cleareſt and ſtrongeſt treaties, could prevail at Vienna, the reſolutions of the two powers, ſo nearly intereſted in the ſuppreſſion of that company, became too ſtrong to be much longer reſiſted.

The weſtern ſuburbs of London, wherein perſons of quality and diſtinction uſually reſide, being now ſo greatly increaſed, the legiſlature, in this twelfth of King George the Firſt, by a clauſe in an Act for granting an Aid to his Majeſty by laying a Duty upon all Victuallers, &c. empowered the commiſſioners for hackney coaches and chairs to add one hundred hackney chairs to the former number, ſo as the whole exceed not four hundred in number; each of which ſhall continue to pay ten ſhillings per annum for their licences.

By an act of Parliament of the ſaid twelſth of King George the Firſt, For better ſecuring the Monies and Effects of the Suitors of the Court of Chancery, &c. it was made " felony with- " out benefit of clergy, not only to forge or counterfeit the name or hand of the accountant- " general of the court of Chancery, and of the regiſter and clerk of the Report-office; but " likewiſe the name or hand of any of the caſhiers of the Bank of England, to any certificate,

" report,

1726 “ report, entry, indorſement, declaration of truſt, note, direction, authority, inſtrument, or “ writing whatſoever, in order for the receiving or obtaining money or effects of ſuitors in “ Chancery: as alſo any bond or obligation under the ſeals of the Eaſt India and South Sea “ Companies, or any indorſement thereon.”

1727 The South Sea Company having built another new ſhip for the whale fiſhery, they, in this year 1727, ſent out their whole twenty-five ſhips on that fiſhery; wherein they employed one thouſand one hundred and ſix men, viz. ſeven hundred and ſixty two Britiſh ſubjects, and three hundred and forty-four foreigners. This too proved an unfortunate voyage, as two of thoſe ſhips were loſt, and the remaining twenty-three ſhips brought home but twenty-two and an half whales.

The great river and bay of Delawar in Pennſylvania, and the ſeas adjoining, abounding with fiſh of various kinds, fit for foreign markets, whereby the trade of Great Britain, as well as the inhabitants of the ſaid province of Pennſylvania, would reap conſiderable benefits, eſpecially by enabling the latter to purchaſe more of the Britiſh manufactures than at preſent they are able to do;—an act of Parliament was now paſſed, in the thirteenth and laſt year of King George the Firſt, For the importing of Salt from Europe into the ſaid Province of Pennſylvania, in Britiſh Ships, navigated by the Acts of Navigation; for curing their fiſh, in like manner as is practiſed in New England and Newfoundland, by virtue of an act of the fifteenth of King Charles II.

Nothing can more obviouſly demonſtrate the amazing increaſe of England’s commerce, in leſs than two centuries paſt, than the great increaſe of many of its commercial and manufacturing towns; ſuch, for inſtance, as the town and port of Liverpool, in Lancaſhire, which in our days is become the greateſt emporium of the Britiſh empire, after London and Briſtol: and, although it is allowed to be an ancient corporation and borough, was nevertheleſs ſo inconſiderable in point of populouſneſs and magnitude, even in the laſt generation, as not to have been made a diſtinct pariſh within itſelf, until the year 1699, by an act of Parliament of the tenth and eleventh of King William, when alſo a new pariſh church was erected, there being only a chapel there till then. In the year 1715, it was ſo much increaſed, that, by an act of the firſt of King George the Firſt, a ſecond pariſh and church was erected in it. The author of the third volume of the Tour through the whole Iſland of Great Britain, publiſhed in the year 1727, obſerves, “ That in his firſt viſit to Liverpool, in the year 1680, it was a “ large handſome thriving town. At his ſecond viſit, ten years after, it was become much “ bigger; and, as the inhabitants reported, twice as large as it was twenty years before,” *i. e.* about 1670: “ but at his third viſit, in 1726, it was more than double its bigneſs of the “ ſaid ſecond viſit, in the year 1690: and it is ſtill increaſing in wealth, people, buſineſs, and “ buildings.”

This ſame author, treating of Mancheſter, in the ſame county, obſerves, “ That, within “ a very few years paſt, here, as at Liverpool, and alſo at Froome, in Somerſetſhire, the “ town is extended in a ſurpriſing manner; being almoſt twice the magnitude it was a few “ years ago. So that, taking in all its ſuburbs, it now,” *i. e.* in the year 1727, “ contains “ at leaſt fifty thouſand people. That the grand manufacture which has ſo much raiſed this “ town is that of cotton in all its varieties, which, like all our other manufactures, is very “ much increaſed within theſe thirty or forty years.” The ſaid cotton manufacture is probably at leaſt as ancient as the middle of Queen Elizabeth’s reign; ſeeing Camden makes mention of Mancheſter cottons. The raw material cotton wool, in thoſe early times, came probably

1727 probably to us ſolely from the Levant; but now our American colonies ſupply us abundantly with that and many other valuable productions. Nevertheleſs, this vaſt place is properly but a mere village in point of government, as having no officer higher than a conſtable: ſo that it may poſſibly be conſidered the largeſt mere village in Chriſtendom, according to our legal ſenſe of that term.

A ſimilar increaſe, and very near as ſudden, has happened to the town of Birmingham, in Warwickſhire; which, in point of government, is as much a village as Mancheſter. Its vaſt increaſe is entirely owing to its iron and hard-ware manufacture, of a great variety of ſorts: whereby it is ſaid to employ or ſupport upwards of fifty thouſand people.

In March this year departed this life, the incomparably great and excellent Sir Iſaac Newton, aged eighty-five, preſident of the Royal Society, maſter of his Majeſty's mint: probably the greateſt philoſopher, and undoubtedly the greateſt mathematician in Europe; whoſe entire character however we are far from pretending to draw. It ſhall ſuffice us to ſay, in one word, that he has not left his equal, in all probability, on the face of the whole earth; having, even by all the learned of foreign nations, been allowed the pre-eminence; and to be the unrivalled glory of the Britiſh name and nation.

In this year the general court of the South Sea Company agreed to diſcharge all the borrowers of money on their ſtock and ſubſcriptions, in the famous year 1720, who had not already repaid the ſame; on condition of their paying back only ten per cent. of the money ſo borrowed.

In the ſame year the Royal African Company's general court came to various reſolutions, for carrying on their trade, and for preventing the ſeparate traders from interfering with them. For reducing their then nominal capital ſtock, ſo as every eight hundred pounds be reduced to one hundred pounds, and ſo as their whole capital ſhall not exceed four hundred thouſand pounds, including therein a certain quantity of additional ſtock, to be created in their corporate capacity, and to be ſold out to individuals, for enabling them to carry on their ſaid trade. All which however came to nothing.

The iſland of Madagaſcar lying within the Eaſt India Company's limits of trade, an act of Parliament, of this thirteenth year of King George the Firſt, was obtained, To enable the South Sea Company, with the Licence and Conſent of the Eaſt India Company, to take in Negroes there, and to deliver the ſame at Buenos-Ayres: the South Sea Company giving ſecurity to the Eaſt India Company not to break bulk any-where within the limits of the latter company, nor to ſail or go to any coaſt, iſland, port or place, within their limits, other than to the ſaid iſland of Madagaſcar, under forfeiture of their ſhips, furniture, and ladings, and of double the value. This act to continue for ſix years only; and the South Sea Company was thereby limited to four ſhips annually, and to carry to Madagaſcar nothing but the neceſſary proviſions, &c. ſolely for the purpoſe of negroes. It was about this time that the ſaid South Sea Company actually employs upwards of thirty ſhips and ſloops, beſide their great annual ſhip, in their negro trade to the Spaniſh ports of America, and in making returns for the ſame.

By another ſtatute, of this ſame year and ſeſſion, For enlarging the Time for hearing and determining Claims by the Truſtees for raiſing Money on the Eſtates of the late Directors of the South Sea Company and others, the net produce of thoſe eſtates is directed to be applied ſolely for the benefit of the ſaid company.

A. D. 1727 In this year William Burnet, Eſquire, the then worthy governor of the New York colony, having duly conſidered, that the chief ſupport of the French colony of Canada was the fur and peltry trade with the Indians; and that, moreover, their towns of Quebec and Montreal were chiefly ſupplied with European merchandize by our merchants of New York, at a much cheaper rate than they had them from France; he rightly inferred, that if the traders of New York were totally debarred from carrying their goods to Canada, they might themſelves directly, or at the firſt hand, ſupply the Indian tribes on and near the lakes of Canada with Engliſh merchandize: for that end he obtained an act of the aſſembly of New York, for opening a moſt profitable trade directly with thoſe Indian nations who till now had dealt entirely with the French at Canada. For which purpoſe the New York aſſembly was at the expence, this very year, of building and fortifying a trading place at Oſwego, on the eaſt bank of the lake Ontario, where they continued to keep a garriſon, (till they were aſſaulted and driven out by the French from Canada, in the year 1757, that fort having been too ſlightly built) and had upwards of three hundred traders there, who conſtantly met the Indians from Canada, and from the great lakes weſt and north from the lake Ontario, and ſouth from the lake Erie. This was a promiſing ſtep towards our getting poſſeſſion of all the inland trade of North America, by erecting fortified truck houſes on the further lakes in and weſt of Canada. But, in ſucceeding times, the French in thoſe parts were, through our ſhameful ſupineneſs, ſuffered to make gradual encroachments on the boundaries of that and our other northern provinces of America, till it became very near too late to put a ſtop to their career.

By a ſtatute of the ſame thirteenth of King George the Firſt, cap. iii. For redeeming ſundry Annuities transferable at the Bank of England, and the Annuities payable on ſtanding Orders, &c. All the redeemable annuities transferable at the Bank, and thoſe aſſignable at the Exchequer, which were not ſubſcribed into the South Sea Company in the year 1720, were now paid off by the ſinking fund.

By another ſtatute, of this ſame ſeſſion of Parliament, For the better Regulation of the Woollen Manufacture, &c. the juſtices of the counties of Glouceſter, Wilts, and Somerſet, are empowered to appoint a certain number of inſpectors in each of thoſe counties, with a ſalary of thirty pounds each yearly; who ſhall, on every week day, have power to enter into and inſpect all mills, work-houſes, and tenter-grounds of clothiers, &c. concerned in the manufacturing and milling of mixed or medley woollen broad cloths, for meaſuring, and otherwiſe examining the goodneſs thereof: and ſhall ſtamp his name thereon with a leaden ſeal, if found ſufficient cloth. This office is inſtead of the ancient one of aulneger, and alſo of the ſubſequent inſpectors, which, for want of ſufficient checks, were become uſeleſs. Theſe inſpectors were to lay their regiſter books before every general quarter ſeſſion for each county, with an account of all penalties and forfeitures incurred by the makers of inſufficient cloths.

By another ſtatute of this ſeſſion, For preventing Frauds and Abuſes in the Dying-Trade, penalties are inflicted on dyers of black bays, and other woollen goods, without woad, indigo, or madder. And the penalty is alſo inflicted on every perſon uſing logwood in the dying of blue in any kind of woollen goods.

And after all the buſtle which the Auſtrian Netherlands and the court of Vienna had ſo long made about their Oſtend Company's trade to the Indies, the arguments urged by Britain and Holland were ſo cogent and ſo effectually powerful, that the Emperor found himſelf ne-

A. D. 1727 ceſſitated now firſt to ſuſpend that company's charter for ſeven years, and afterwards to revoke it entirely.

The King of Spain having now in vain laid ſiege to Gibraltar, before any formal declaration of war againſt the crown of Great Britain, he at the ſame time directed to be ſeized all the effects of the South Sea Company in America, with the great ſhip Prince Frederick and its cargo at La Vera Cruz, to the amount of upwards of one hundred and twenty thouſand pounds ſterling. And this was the ſecond time that the court of Madrid found, or thought they found, their account in ſuch ſudden ſeizures; whereby the precariouſneſs of this company's trade to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies did now but too plainly appear.

At Midſummer this year, the reduction of the intereſt on the national debt from five to four per cent. took place; by which meaſure the famous ſinking fund was increaſed to above one million per annum. Had thoſe whoſe province it properly was to keep punctually to the paying off at leaſt one million of the public debts annually, from this year 1727 to the year 1739, when we declared war againſt Spain, in how much eaſier a ſituation would the nation then have been? Inſtead of which frugal meaſure, that ſacred fund has been either directly or indirectly ſacrilegiouſly and wantonly violated, to the inconceivable damage of the nation's commerce, which otherwiſe would have long ſince been greatly eaſed by the aboliſhing of ſuch taxes, duties, and cuſtoms, as are at preſent very conſiderable clogs on our manufactures and foreign commerce, by enabling our rivals to underſell us at foreign markets, to our unſpeakable detriment.

By the neceſſary operation of this ſinking fund of only one million yearly, it was very plainly ſhewn by a judicious pamphlet, entitled, An Eſſay on the Public Debts of this Kingdom, "That, ſuppoſing the then national debt of fifty millions, and the ſaid ſinking fund of one million, to be both at four per cent. intereſt, the latter increaſing annually in like proportion as ſuch a ſum put out at compound intereſt, would do, the whole national debt would have been diſcharged by the year 1756.

"Thus," for illuſtration, "at Midſummer 1728, one million would be paid off; and at Midſummer 1729 the ſinking fund would be one million and forty thouſand pounds, and that ſame year and term the debts would be leſſened two millions and forty thouſand pounds. At Midſummer 1730, the ſinking fund would be increaſed to one million and eighty thouſand pounds, and the debts would be leſſened three millions one hundred and twenty-one thouſand ſix hundred pounds; and ſo on to the ſaid year 1756, when the ſaid ſinking fund would be increaſed to thirty millions, and the total amount of the debts paid would be fifty millions.

"Again," ſays our ſaid well known author, Mr. John Adam, long ſince dead, "ſuppoſing the fifty millions had been at three per cent. from Midſummer 1727, then at Midſummer 1751, inſtead of 1756, the ſinking fund would be increaſed to thirty millions, and the debt of fifty millions would then be diſcharged."

The ſame author alſo judiciouſly and honeſtly demonſtrated the damage and obſtructions which would happen, if the ſinking fund ſhould be miſapplied or diverted from its annual diminution of the public debts.

We ſhall here only further obſerve, That upon this ſecond reduction of the intereſt of our national debts, their market price advanced very conſiderably.

In this ſame year, an act of Parliament paſſed, For encouraging and promoting Fiſheries, Manufactures, and other Improvements, in that part of Great Britain called Scotland; by

A. D. 1727 which the crown was empowered to appoint commiſſioners for managing the application of the funds for improving fiſheries and commerce there: and theſe commiſſioners were annually to lay before the King any alterations neceſſary for improving the fiſheries and manufactures of that country.

By a ſtatute of the firſt year of King George II. cap. viii. For granting an Aid to his Majeſty, by Sale of Annuities to the Bank of England, at four per Cent. charged on the Duties on Coals and Culm, &c. the Bank fund was increaſed by ſeventy thouſand pounds intereſt, on one million ſeven hundred and fifty thouſand pounds advanced on thoſe duties, redeemable by Parliament. And the Bank hereupon thought it prudent to declare a reduction of the yearly dividend on their capital ſtock from ſix to five and a half per cent. from Lady-day 1728.

By this ſame ſtatute a million of the national debt was paid off out of the ſinking fund, viz. five hundred thouſand pounds to the South Sea Company, which was to be paid off by ſinking ſo much of the undiſtributed ſtock forfeited by the late directors, &c. in the year 1720; which was to go to pay the company's debts. Hereupon that company ſunk two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds from the capital ſtock, and the ſame ſum from South Sea annuity ſtock.

And five hundred thouſand pounds was in like manner paid to the Bank of England, being part of the two millions added to their capital by an act of the third of King George I. whereby the total of their capital ſtock was reduced to four millions eight hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand and twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten-pence halfpenny.

1728 By a preliminary convention between Great Britain and Spain, ſigned at the Pardo, near Madrid, on the ſixth of March 1728, it was agreed, on the one hand, " That his Britannic " Majeſty ſhould withdraw his fleets from the coaſts of Spain, and from the Spaniſh Weſt " Indies; and that the contraband trade, and other cauſes of complaint, which the Spaniards " may have in relation to the ſhip Prince Frederick; and the reſtoring of prizes taken on " each ſide, ſhall be decided at a future congreſs."

On the other hand, Spain agrees,

" Firſt, Immediately to raiſe the blockade of Gibraltar.

" Secondly, To order the ſhip Prince Frederick, with her cargo, to be delivered up to the " South Sea Company's agents at La Vera Cruz. And,

" Thirdly, To reſtore the commerce of that company with Spaniſh America, agreeable to " the Aſſiento-contract."

Dr. Berkley, Dean (ſince Biſhop) of Derry, having obtained a patent from King George the Firſt, for erecting a college in Bermudas, for the inſtruction of youth in all manner of liberal ſciences, he ſailed thither this year, taking with him ſeveral tradeſmen and artiſts, with certain ſtores and merchandize, and a good library. He ſailed firſt for the continent of North America; where, maturely weighing the practicability of his wild though well-intended ſcheme, which was for educating the children of the inhabitants of the continent and iſlands of America, at the ſmall Bermudas iſles, in the midſt of a tempeſtuous ocean, far removed from any land, either continent or iſland, and every way improper for that purpoſe; he was ſo well adviſed, at length, as to return to his deanery, without ſo much as ſetting foot on the now almoſt worn-out Bermuda Iſland.

By a treaty of peace and commerce between the King of Great Britain and the Emperor of Morocco, ſigned at Mequinez, it was now ſtipulated, 1728 “ I. That all Moors and Jews, ſubjects of Morocco, ſhall be allowed a free traffic for thirty “ days” (*i. e.* to buy and ſell) “ in the city of Gibraltar and at the iſland of Minorca, though “ not to reſide at either place; but to depart with their effects, without moleſtation, to any “ part of the Morocco dominions.

“ II. On the other hand, the Britiſh ſubjects in Barbary ſhall not be obliged to appear be- “ fore the Cadi, or the juſtices of the country, but only before the governor of the place: “ and the Britiſh conſuls are to take cognizance of, and adjuſt the differences they may have “ with the natives of the country.

“ III. The menial ſervants of Britiſh ſubjects, though natives of the country, either Moors “ or Jews, ſhall be exempted from taxes of all kinds.

“ IV. Britiſh ſubjects taken on board of foreign ſhips by the ſubjects of Morocco, ſhall “ immediately be ſet at liberty, and ſent to Gibraltar.

“ V. Proviſions may be freely bought, and other neceſſaries, for his Britannic Majeſty's “ fleets, or for his city of Gibraltar, in any port of the Emperor of Morocco, at the market “ prices; and ſhall be ſhipped off without paying cuſtom.”

Theſe conceſſions from that barbarous people are extremely honourable to Britain; but they would be no longer kept than we are maſters at ſea, and are in poſſeſſion of the moſt important fortreſs and port of Gibraltar.

Toward the cloſe of the reign of King George the Firſt, the colonies of South and North Carolina were grievouſly afflicted with invaſions from the Indians in their neighbourhood, ſo that the people were unable (even with what aſſiſtance they could procure from neighbouring colonies) to withſtand thoſe ſavages. And the lords proprietors being unwilling to take upon themſelves the expence of this Indian war, the deputies of thoſe colonies humbly beſought the King to take them under his protection. Whereupon the Duke of Beaufort, the Lord Craven, Sir John Colleton, James Bertie, Eſquire, Dodington Greville, Eſquire, Henry Bertle, Eſquire, John Cotton, Eſquire, Joſeph Blakes, Eſquire, Mary Dawſon, and Elizabeth Moore, being the repreſentatives of the original proprietors of ſeven-eighth parts of thoſe two provinces, (either in their own right, or in truſt) declaring, by petition to his Majeſty, their willingneſs to ſurrender their charters to the crown for a valuable conſideration; an act of Parliament was paſſed in the ſecond year of King George II. For eſtabliſhing an Agreement with Seven of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, for the Surrender of their Title and Intereſt in that Province to his Majeſty. In conſideration of which, the ſaid ſeven proprietors were to be paid the ſum of ſeventeen thouſand five hundred pounds, (being two thouſand five hundred pounds for each ſeventh part) and five thouſand pounds more for the arrears of quit-rents, &c. due to them. Thus for ſo ſmall a ſum as twenty-two thouſand five hundred pounds, were ſeven eighth parts of thoſe fine provinces made regal governments from and after the firſt of June, 1729. And as the Lord Carteret (ſince Earl of Granville) choſe to retain the other remaining eighth part of Carolina in his own right, a clauſe in the ſaid act of Parliament “ provides or ſaves to his lordſhip, his heirs, executors, adminiſtrators, and “ aſſigns, all ſuch eſtate, right, title, &c. to one undivided eighth part or ſhare of the ſaid “ provinces, and one-eighth part of all arrears of quit-rents, &c. thereof.—Notwithſtanding “ which the government of the whole is hereby made entirely regal.” And in this regal ſtate Carolina (under two ſeparate governors, councils, and aſſemblies) has wonderfully flouriſhed and increaſed in trade and commerce, and has extended its plantations further back or weſtward.—Proper ſupplies and relief having been ſent thither by the crown; ſo that the neighbouring

A. D 1728 bouring Indians were reduced to live in a peaceable condition for a conſiderable length of time; but manifeſting once more an hoſtile diſpoſition, they were again reduced to reaſonable terms, after much bloodſhed.

In this ſame year 1728, the South Sea Company ſent out their twenty-three remaining ſhips for their whale fiſhery, and returned with only the blubber and fins of eighteen whales; which was undoubtedly a loſing voyage.

There was, at this time, printed in the new edition of Harris's Collection of Voyages, a liſt of the dividends made by the Dutch Eaſt India Company, from the year 1605, to 1728, both years included, twelve and a half per cent. being the ſmalleſt dividend made for one whole year in all that number of years, and ſeventy-five per cent. the higheſt. Thoſe dividends were ſometimes all in money; at other times in bonds, bearing an intereſt at four or three and an half per cent. Sometimes alſo they were made in mace, cloves, and pepper; but alway in money ſince the year 1698. So that in the ſaid ſpace of one hundred and twenty-four years they had, on an average, divided ſomewhat more than twenty-four per cent. one year with another, or in all two thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four and a half per cent. in the whole of the ſaid one hundred and twenty-four years; or about eighteen millions ſterling, on their entire capital of ſix hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſterling, drawn moſtly from other nations: beſide which, we are to conſider the great ſums paid by this company to the ſtate, for the frequent renewals of their privileges, amounting to more than its original capital; and, the vaſt eſtates gained by the numberleſs officers of all ſorts in the company's ſervice ſince its firſt eſtabliſhment.

We may alſo conſider, what an immenſe ſum muſt have been laid out by the company, in the building and repairs of their ſhips, &c. in the employment given to ſo many thouſand of people thereby, and by the manufactures and merchandize exported: all which, and other profits accruing to the ſtate by this commerce, has without doubt, greatly overbalanced all the ſilver which from the beginning has been exported to and never returns from India. And we cannot here avoid obſerving, that all theſe conſiderations are equally applicable to our own Engliſh Eaſt India Company, though perhaps in a ſomewhat leſſer degree, and may therefore juſtly ſerve for a further defence of our Eaſt India commerce.

In this ſame year, the Britiſh Houſe of Commons preſented to the King a repreſentation or particular account of the national debts, contracted before Chriſtmas 1716, and how much thereof has been ſince diſcharged by the Sinking-fund, though till now but in its infancy. "Which debt ſo diſcharged amounted to two millions ſix hundred and ninety-eighty thouſand "four hundred and ſixteen pounds nine ſhillings and ſeven pence three farthings, ſince "Chriſtmas 1716.—That by the ſeveral reductions from ſix to five, and from five now to four "per cent. on the greateſt part of the public debts, ſo great ſavings of intereſt have been "made, that the ſaid Sinking-fund may now be eſtimated to be about one million two "hundred thouſand pounds per annum; and will be every year increaſing from the further "ſavings of the intereſt of the remaining debts from time to time, as they ſhall be paid off. "Which increaſe of the Sinking-fund from four hundred thouſand pounds, to about one "million two hundred thouſand pounds," (ſince midſummer 1727) "being in the hands of "the government, and applicable from time to time to the diſcharge of the principal, makes "a gain and profit to the public equal to the diſcharge of one-third of the principal debt; ſo "that the ſaid additional eight hundred thouſand pounds to the ſinking fund, if valued at "twenty-five years purchaſe at which rate all annuities are now currently ſold, makes a real

A. D. 1728 "profit to the public of twenty millions.—And if, notwithſtanding the many difficulties this nation has laboured under, by an unnatural rebellion, and by the many heinous plots and conſpiracies ſince formed, for overturning the religion and liberties of our country: and notwithſtanding the embroiled condition of the affairs of Europe,—we have been able to diminiſh the national debts ſo much already; what may we not hope for in regard to a ſpeedy and ſenſible diſcharge of them for the future?" Upon which repreſentation we ſhall only in brief remark, as many have before done, that although the then and ſucceeding adminiſtration had afterwards many ſuch difficulties to ſtruggle with as are above enumerated, more ſurely might have been done for increaſing the ſinking fund, by abſolutely preſerving it inviolable; although it be allowed, that it would have been attended with many and great difficulties, conſidering that a ſecond unnatural rebellion, and two very expenſive wars have happened ſince that repreſentation was made. What is paſt needs not to be enlarged on; but ſurely hereafter, eſpecially in times of peace, a determined national frugality ought zealouſly to be cultivated;* and it is earneſtly to be hoped and wiſhed, that, in order to increaſe this ſinking fund, the public might be enabled to avail itſelf of a rational reduction of the ſalaries of many uſeleſs offices and employments in the revenue, &c. the fee-ſimple whereof, it is humbly apprehended, would probably amount to a greater ſum than perhaps many may apprehend, were it made the object of a ſtrict enquiry.

In a vindication of the iſland of Jamaica at this time, from certain aſperſions on the conduct of the planters and of their aſſembly, and pleading for ſome favours from the legiſlature of Great Britain; it was computed as follows; viz.

"That the trade of that iſland employs three hundred ſail of ſhips and above ſix thouſand ſeamen, and that the very duties on the imports from thence amount to near one hundred thouſand pounds per annum.—That there are eight fine harbours in it, beſide many coves and bays where ſhips may ſafely ride: there are alſo eighty-four rivers which diſcharge into the ſea, and ſeven times as many leſſer rivers and ſprings which run into them.—That its principal productions, beſide ſugars, are cotton, ginger, Piemento, mahogany wood, logwood, and indigo. That very little of the four laſt named commodities are imported from the reſt of the Britiſh plantations: ſo that, but for Jamaica, we ſhould be obliged to purchaſe them of the French, Dutch, and other nations.—That cotton is neceſſary to work up with wool in many of our manufactures, &c.—Ginger is chiefly exported, though great quantities are likewiſe uſed at home.—Their Piemento leſſens the conſumption of ſpices, which are only to be had of the Dutch at their own rates.—That indigo, logwood, fuſtick, &c. are uſed by dyers, and are abſolutely neceſſary in many of our manufactures; and that before we had thoſe commodities of our own, we paid five times the prices for them we now do, and for ſome of them more.—That, before our Weſt India plantations were ſettled, we paid the Portugueſe from four to five pound per hundred weight for Muſcovado ſugar, now ſold from twenty-two to thirty-five ſhillings, as in goodneſs.—And above five pound per hundred for ginger, now commonly ſold at twenty-two ſhillings and ſixpence.—That our dyers wares were bought of the Spaniards, to whom we paid for logwood from one hundred to one hundred and thirty pound per ton, which may now be had at nine pounds per ton; and other goods uſed in dying, proportionably. So that, by having thoſe plantations, we not only ſave ſo much as was formerly paid for thoſe commodities to foreigners,

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* *Non intelligunt Homines quantum* Vectigal *ſit* Parſimonia! CICERO.

" but

A. D. 1728. " but we are alſo able to furniſh other nations therewith : and our manufacturers, by having " them at leſs prices than they formerly had them, are enabled to ſell their commodities proportionably cheaper, which is undoubtedly a great advantage to the nation."—Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, vol. xxv. for February 1728.

This vindication, or ſurvey of the benefits of Jamaica, and of our Weſt India colonies to their mother-country, places them in ſuch an advantageous light, and gives alſo ſo clear, though ſuccinct, a view of our commerce with them, as well merits a place in this work.

In this ſame year, the Daniſh Eaſt India Company, reſiding at Copenhagen, publiſhed propoſals for a new ſubſcription to be taken at Altena, near Hamburg, for enlarging their ancient capital ſtock.

I. " The new ſubſcribers to be equally entitled to all the benefits and privileges, which the " old members poſſeſs, in reſpect of the trade, ſhipping, forts, ſettlements, revenues, houſes, " and other effects whatever.

II. " The old capital, conſiſting of two hundred and fifty thouſand rix-dollars, divided into " two hundred and fifty ſhares, each being of one thouſand rix-dollars, to retain likewiſe " equal benefits with the new ſubſcribers.

III. " The company, after this union with the new ſubſcribers, were in their joint capacity to pay off their entire debts, conſiſting of one hundred and ſixty thouſand rix-dollars : " but the old proprietors were not to be entitled to any dividend till the year 1733.

IV. The actions, or ſhares, of the new ſubſcribers, to conſiſt of one thouſand rix-dollars " each, and the half-ſhares to be five hundred rix-dollars : for each transfer to pay two rix-" dollars to the company, and half a one to the poor.

V. The Company's creditors may take new actions thereof for the debts due to them.

VI. The King, by his octroi, declares, that the ſhares ſhall not be liable to any ſeizure or " ſtop, upon any account whatever."—It is ſcarce neceſſary to inform the reader, that Denmark is an abſolute monarchy.

VII. " The money, ariſing by new ſubſcriptions, to be wholly employed for ſending out " ſhips to Tranquebar," (their own fort on the coaſt of Coromandel) " Bengal, and China.

VIII. " The four additional or new directors may be all foreigners ; and ten ſhares to be " the qualification-ſtock of every director. Every ſingle ſhare ſhall have one vote in the general courts ; and a proprietor of twenty ſhares ſhall have twenty votes ; and none ſhall " have more than twenty, however numerous their ſhares may be.

IX. " If any two directors ſhall be diſatisfied with the conduct of the other directors, they " may ſummon a general court to acquaint the company therewith.

X. " The general courts have plenary powers to do whatever they ſhall judge convenient " for the advantage of the company.

XI. " The new ſhares to be ſubſcribed ſhall not exceed two thouſand two hundred and " fifty, *i. e.* in the whole ; and the new or additional ſtock ſhall not exceed two millions two " hundred and fifty thouſand rix-dollars."

N. B. There were twenty-five other articles of leſſer importance, and are therefore omitted.

To theſe propoſals the old company, in order to remove any objections which might be made in reſpect to their then exiſting circumſtances, added, " That they had very valuable " effects, ſuch as, the town of Tranquebar, a very important place, with two hundred pieces " of cannon, beſide ammunition, and a yearly income of ten thouſand crowns, and alſo ſeve-" ral duties and revenues, increaſing every year in proportion to the increaſe of inhabitants.

" That,

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1728 " That, beſides, they have the caſtle of Danneburg, on the rich coaſt of Coromandel, conveniently ſituated for trade, and particularly for pearls and diamonds: alſo, Porto-novo on the ſame coaſt; two ſhips with their cargoes now at ſea, bound to Tranquebar, and ſome other ſhips and factories, &c." From all which particulars, a nearly exact ſtate of the Daniſh Eaſt India Company's circumſtances and commerce may be gathered; not much, however, to their advantage.

Ships arriving at London from foreign ports, between Chriſtmas 1727 and Chriſtmas 1728, viz. Britiſh ſhips, one thouſand eight hundred and thirty-nine: foreign ſhips, two hundred and thirteen: coaſters, ſix thouſand eight hundred and thirty-ſeven; in all, eight thouſand eight hundred and eighty-nine ſhips; which number is, of later years, conſiderably increaſed.

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament, in the ſecond year of King George the Seeond, For raiſing the ſum of one million two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, by ſale of annuities to the Bank of England, &c. that corporation advanced the ſaid ſum to the public, at four per cent. intereſt, charged on the ſurpluſſes of the fund of lottery 1714; redeemable from Midſummer 1730, by payment of not leſs than five hundred thouſand pounds at a time. Yet this receiving of ſo low an intereſt, obliged the Bank to lower their dividend from three to two and three quarters per cent. at Midſummer 1730, for that half year.

In this ſame year 1729, the Hamlet of Spital-fields, long ſince become a vaſtly extended ſuburb, chiefly by the very great number of ſilk manufacturers therein, and in which new ſtreets were more and more increaſing, was, by an act of Parliament, For making the ſaid Hamlet a new Pariſh, &c. accordingly ſo made, and endowed as one of the fifty new churches, by the name of Chriſt Church; this pariſh was before a part of the pariſh of St. Dunſtan's, Stepney.

And by another act of the ſaid ſecond year of King George the Second, another new pariſh was erected in the Hamlet of Wapping-Stepney, alſo taken out of the pariſh of St. Dunſtan, Stepney, by the name of St. George in the Eaſt, ſituated in the ſtreet named Ratcliffe Highway: that eaſtern ſuburb being of late years conſiderably increaſed by the increaſe of our commerce and ſhipping.

By a ſtatute of this ſecond year of King George the Second, For making more effectual ſeveral Acts paſſed relating to Watermen, Wherrymen, and Lightermen, rowing on the River Thames, and for better ordering and governing them, the ſeveral following regulations were made; as,

I. " No waterman, &c. but a houſekeeper, or who at leaſt has ſome known place of abode, ſhall take an apprentice, under ten pounds penalty: and ſuch apprentice to be duly regiſtered, as well as the maſter, and alſo his place of abode, by the Clerk of the Watermens Company: and on neglect of ſo regiſtering any apprentice, and alſo the maſter's place of abode, that company may turn the ſaid apprentice over to another maſter.

II. " No apprentice ſhall be truſted with the ſole care of a boat, between Graveſend and Windſor, till he be ſixteen years of age, if a waterman's ſon; or ſeventeen years of age, if a landman's ſon, under the penalty of ten ſhillings on the maſter.

III. " None but ſuch as ſhall have ſerved ſeven years to any waterman, wherryman, or lighterman, except Trinity-houſe men, fiſhermen, ballaſt-men, and perſons employed in rowing or navigating weſtern barges, mill boats, chalk hoys, faggot and wood lighters, dung boats and gardeners boats: in ſuch manner as has been accuſtomed by allowance of a

former

A. D. 1729 " former ſtatute, ſhall row, or cauſe to be rowed or worked, any boat, wherry, lighter, or " other veſſel, on the ſaid river for hire or gain; on forfeiture of ten pounds, or elſe impriſonment. Yet owners of keys, or quays, between the Hermitage Bridge and London " Bridge, may uſe their large craft or lighters as heretofore, for the carrying of goods and " merchandize to and from their keys, and to and from ſhips, and to employ therein watermen, &c. duly qualified. Penalties to be raiſed by the rulers of the Watermens Company " for the benefit of their poor."

The laſt ſtatute we ſhall mention of this ſecond year of King George the Second, is, An Act for the better Preſervation of his Majeſty's Woods in America, and for the Encouragement of the Importation of Naval Stores from thence; and to encourage the Importation of Maſts, Yards, and Bowſprits from Scotland. Which, after reciting a former ſtatute for this purpoſe, enacts:

Firſt, " That from the twenty-ninth of September, 1729, no perſon in the colonies of " Nova Scotia, alſo in New Hampſhire, the province of Maine, the Maſſachuſett's Bay, " Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantation; the Naraganſet Country, or King's Province, " and Connecticut, all in New England; as alſo, in New York and New Jerſey, in America; or in any province of America, now belonging, or that ſhall hereafter belong to the " crown of Great Britain; ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any white pine trees, fit for " maſting the royal navy; except only ſuch as are the property of private perſons, notwithſtanding the ſaid trees do or may grow within the limits of any townſhip laid out, or to be " laid out hereafter, without his Majeſty's royal licence firſt obtained.

Secondly, " And whereas King William and Queen Mary's charter, in the third year of " their reign, granted to the province of the Maſſachuſett's Bay, did reſerve to themſelves and " ſucceſſors all trees of the diameter of twenty-four inches and upwards, at twelve inches from " the ground, growing in that province, on any ſoil or ground not before granted to any private perſons; in order, therefore, to make that reſervation more effectual, it was now " enacted, that no perſon within the ſaid province ſhall ſo cut and deſtroy any ſuch white " pine trees, on any land or ſoil, not granted to private perſons before the ſeventh of October 1690, under the penalties of the act of the eighth of King George I.

Thirdly, " New and more moderate premiums are granted for the following naval ſtores to be " raiſed and imported from America," (needleſs to be hereagain recited) " viz. maſts, yards, " bowſprits, good tar, pitch and turpentine: and ſuch naval ſtores imported ſhall repay thoſe " premiums, when re-exported.—A premium is alſo enacted for the importation of maſts, " yards, and bowſprits from Scotland, where" as this act ſets forth, " there are in ſundry " parts great ſtore of pine and fir trees."—But ſo great is the difficulty to bring them down to ſea-ports, as has rendered that part of this act, and of that of the eighth of King George I. quite impracticable.

On the twelfth of October 1729, the King of Denmark, by a new charter to his Eaſt India Company, takes it into his immediate protection, intending to make it one of the moſt flouriſhing of any in Europe. The ſubſtance of which charter is, viz.

I. " He grants the Company forty years after the expiration of its preſent term: during which time, none but ſuch as ſhall be authoriſed by them, ſhall carry on any commerce beyond the Cape of Good Hope, on forfeiture to this company of their ſhips and " merchandize.

1729 II. “ The company's ſhips and merchandize ſhall, on no pretence, be arreſted, detained, “ or ſearched.

III. “ The capital ſtock ſhall be exempted from all duties and impoſitions, either in time “ of war or peace; and even the ſtock of the ſubjects of ſuch nations, with whom the Daniſh “ King may, at any time, be at enmity, ſhall not be ſtopped or ſeized on any pretence whatever.

IV. “ This new company ſhall conſiſt of ſeven hundred and fifty ſhares, of one thouſand “ crowns each, (Daniſh) including the ſtock of the old company, being two hundred and “ fifty thouſand crowns. There ſhall alſo be half ſhares of five hundred crowns each.”

N. B. This is a royal eſtabliſhment of the propoſals of this company, in the preceding year, with ſome variation.

At length, in November 1729, was concluded the famous treaty of Seville, between Great Britain, France, and Spain; for peace, union, friendſhip, and mutual defence: by which thoſe three great powers,

I. “ Renew all former treaties of peace and friendſhip.

II. “ They mutually guarantee each others dominions, and the rights and privileges of “ their commerce, in what parts ſoever of the world; each potentate for this end to furniſh “ eight thouſand foot and four thouſand horſe: or elſe ſhips of war and tranſports; or elſe “ again in money inſtead of either.

III. “ The Britiſh and French courts having alleged that, in the treaty of Vienna, in the “ year 1725, there were divers clauſes, which infringed the articles of ſeveral treaties of commerce; his Catholic Majeſty declares, that he never meant to grant, by virtue of the ſaid “ treaty, any privilege contrary to the above-named privileges and treaties.

IV. V. “ All neceſſary orders ſhall be diſpatched on both ſides for the execution of former “ treaties of commerce both with the Engliſh and French nations.

VI. VII. “ Commiſſaries ſhall be appointed on both ſides, between their Britannic and “ Catholic Majeſties, in four months time, to examine and decide what concerns the ſhips “ and effects taken at ſea, and the reſpective allegations relative to abuſes in commerce, as “ well in Europe as in America. As alſo with reſpect to France and Spain.

VIII. “ The ſaid commiſſaries ſhall finiſh their commiſſion within three years, or ſooner if “ poſſible.

IX. X. XI. XII. XIII. “ Theſe articles relate to the placing of Spaniſh garriſons into “ Leghorn, Porto Ferajo, Parma, and Placentia, for the eventual ſucceſſion of Don Carlos “ to Tuſcany, Parma, and Placentia: all the contracting parties agreeing to guarantee the ſaid “ ſucceſſion.

XIV. “ The States General of the United Provinces ſhall be invited to accede to this treaty:”—as they ſoon after did in this ſame month and year.

By the two ſeparate articles of the treaty of Seville, it was more expreſly ſtipulated, for the greater exactneſs, that the treaties of peace and commerce at Utrecht, between Great Britain and Spain, in which are comprized the treaty of 1667 and of 1715, as alſo the Aſſiento contract of 1713, and its farther explanation in the year 1716, ſhall from this day, even during the examination by the commiſſaries, remain in full force and vigour; for which end, the Catholic King ſhall diſpatch his cedulas to his vice-roys, &c. in America, as well as in Europe, as ſhall alſo his Britannic Majeſty to his governors, &c. for the releaſe of all ſhips and

A. D. 1729 merchandize; and, particularly, the South Sea Company's ſhip, Prince Frederick, and her cargo, ſhall be immediately reſtored: all which was under the before named guarantee.

In the acceſſion of the States General of the United Provinces, they were to furniſh only four thouſand foot and one thouſand horſe; and on the part of the other allies, they were to guarantee the aboliſhing the Oſtend Eaſt India Company, &c. and the Catholic King engages, that entire ſatisfaction ſhall be given them (*i. e.* the Dutch) for their grievances, as well in the Weſt Indies as in Europe, and to re-eſtabliſh their commerce, agreeable to former treaties: and, laſtly, to grant them all the commercial privileges enjoyed by the moſt favoured nations.

In this ſame year, the South Sea Company's twenty-three ſhips went out on the whale fiſhery; and, one of them being loſt, the other twenty-two ſhips brought home twenty-ſeven whales and a half; which was ſtill a loſing trade; the company's net loſs by this ſingle year's trade, beſide wear and tear, being ſix thouſand nine hundred and four pounds eight ſhillings and four pence.

In this ſame year, the Eaſt India Company of the United Netherlands obtained of the States General, a prolongation of their octroi or charter of an excluſive trade to India, for twenty-one years beyond their preſent term: for which privilege that company paid into the treaſury of the republic three million ſix hundred thouſand guilders, or about three hundred and thirty thouſand pounds ſterling, their power, pomp, and wealth in India, and more eſpecially in the iſle of Java, even at this time equalling thoſe of ſome conſiderable monarchs.

In the province of Pennſylvania, great improvements were conſtantly making in commerce, ſhipping, and agriculture: many ſhips and ſloops were continually building at Philadelphia, Newcaſtle, &c. which they moſtly diſpoſe of to our ſugar colonies, and the reſt they uſe in the carrying their own product, conſiſting of caſk ſtaves, lumber, pork, peaſe, flour, biſcuit, &c. in exchange for ſugar, rum, melaſſes, and Spaniſh money. Great numbers of Germans are annually adding to this already populous province, as well from Britain as Ireland. The following is a liſt of the people arrived there from Europe in the year 1729, viz.

Engliſh and Welch paſſengers and ſervants - - -	267
Scots ſervants - - - - - -	43
Iriſh paſſengers and ſervants - - - - -	1,155
Palatine paſſengers - - - - - -	243
And, in Newcaſtle government alone, there arrived this year, of paſſengers and ſervants, moſtly from Ireland, (by reaſon of rack-rents there, as it is ſaid) about - - - - - -	4,500
Total arrived in this year only -	6,208

It is no matter, then, for ſurprize, that this province was in ſuch a thriving ſtate; its conſtitution being, moreover, ſo excellent, and the encouragement afforded to new comers, by abſolute freedom, liberty of conſcience, lenity of laws, gentle taxes, &c. ſo as really to be a pattern for all other governments on the continent.

As party-rage ran very high at this time, viz. in the year 1729, the friends of the miniſtry found themſelves obliged to prove, by fact, what was before generally known to be undoubtedly true, that Britain was then in a thriving condition, viz.

A. D.
1729 I. By the low intereſt of money, thereby evidently demonſtrating a greater plenty of money than formerly.

II. This plenty of money has raiſed the price of lands from twenty and twenty-one years, to twenty-five, twenty-ſix, and twenty-ſeven years purchaſe. An evident proof that there are more perſons able and ready to purchaſe land than formerly.

III. Another clear evidence of our improved wealth in Britain is, the great ſums of late expended in the incloſing and improving of lands, and in opening of mines.

IV. In the great increaſe of jewels, plate, and other rich moveables, much beyond elder times.

V. The increaſed value of our woollen goods exported in ſix years, ending at Chriſtmas 1727, (the account of the year 1728 not being as yet made up) which exceeds the value of the ſix preceding years, by four hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds. And the ſame may be ſaid of the increaſe of our exportations of coals, lead, tin, and lead ore.

VI. The like increaſe of foreign goods exported, which in the laſt three years exceeded in value the three preceding years by five hundred and thirty-five thouſand pounds.

VII. Laſtly, there will be found an increaſe in the tonnage of the ſhipping of England, in the laſt ſix years beyond what it was in the preceding ſix years, of two hundred and thirty-eight thouſand tons. All which are undoubted marks of increaſing wealth, and of the general balance of trade running in our favour.

As for the only two objections, viz.

Firſt, The courſe of exchange between us and Holland, running to our diſadvantage: and,

Secondly, Our great paper credit.

The firſt is to be accounted for by Amſterdam's being, as it were, the center of exchanges to and from all parts of Europe, and particularly between Britain and Holland, and thence between us and moſt other nations, and conſequently, that the great ſums of intereſt in our public funds, chiefly remitted by way of Amſterdam, and the frequent ſelling out of foreigners in our funds, as the intereſt thereon becomes gradually leſſened more and more: alſo the great importations of corn in the years of ſcarcity, from Dantzic, Hamburg, and the Netherlands, which, in the ſingle year 1728, amounted to eight hundred thouſand pounds paid for by the way of Holland. Moreover, the balance we pay to the northern countries, for our moſt neceſſary naval ſtores, &c. being moſtly remitted by the way of Amſterdam, is one conſiderable cauſe of the exchange thither running ſometimes againſt us. Theſe and ſimilar reaſons may well account for the courſe of exchange being in a retrograde ſtate between us and Holland; which therefore cannot be a juſt or certain rule to determine the balance of trade, or whether the wealth of Britain be increaſing or decreaſing.

Laſtly, As we have ſufficiently ſhewn in the Introduction to this work, the increaſe of paper credit proves quite the contrary of what the objectors intend, ſince it is not the cauſe, but the demonſtrable effect and proof of national riches.

1730 The Engliſh Eaſt India Company's term for the redemption of their capital, and of their excluſive trade, being near its expiration, viz. on three years notice from Lady-day 1733, a powerful and ſtrenuous oppoſition to its renewal or prolongation was, at this time, raiſed by certain merchants and gentlemen, who foreſeeing that the company would apply to the legiſlature for a longer time in their excluſive privileges, determined to be before-hand with them; and

A. D. 1730 and therefore in February 1730 (N. S.) they preſented to the Houſe of Commons their petition and propoſals, viz.

"They offered to advance three millions two hundred thouſand pounds for redeeming the "fund of the company, by five ſeveral payments, the laſt to be at Lady-day 1733, to be al-"lowed an intereſt of four per cent. till the laſt-named term, and only two per cent. from "and after that term: provided,

"I. That they might be incorporated, and in all reſpects veſted with the excluſive privi-"leges and trade of that company: yet ſo, as not to trade in one joint ſtock or in their cor-"porate capacity; but that the trade ſhould be free and open to all his Majeſty's ſubjects, "who ſhould pay one per cent. of the value of their exports to India, in conſideration of "their taking out a licence from this propoſed corporation. Provided alſo,

"That this trade be ſolely carried on from the port of London. And,

"III. That this propoſed company's term be thirty-one years, and to be redeemed on three "years notice.

"IV. That, moreover, for enabling this propoſed corporation to defray the expence of "forts and ſettlements in India, as well as the preſervation and enlargement of the trade, they "may be empowered to levy a duty of five per cent. on the groſs value of all the merchandize "which ſhall be imported from India."

The benefits to the public, by this propoſal, they ſet forth, in brief, to be,

"I. That by receiving but two per cent. intereſt, an annuity of ninety-two thouſand "pounds would be added to the ſinking fund, which, at twenty-five years purchaſe, was "worth two millions five hundred thouſand pounds to the public.

"II. That, as the laying open the trade to Africa is acknowledged to be attended with "great national advantages; ſo the thus laying open the trade to the Eaſt Indies, or the re-"ducing it into a kind of regulated company, will be attended with the following advantages, "viz. It will neceſſarily occaſion a larger exportation of our own product and manufactures "to India.

"III. It will employ a much greater number of ſhips and ſeamen.

"IV. It will greatly lower the prices of all Eaſt India commodities conſumed at home.

"V. It will enable us to ſupply foreign markets, cheaper and in greater quantities, with "Indian merchandize; whereby ſome new branches of traffic may be gained and others pre-"ſerved, more eſpecially in Africa and America, and alſo in ſome parts of Europe." Here the propoſers ſhould have been more explicit.

"VI. It will neceſſarily advance the cuſtoms and exciſe, and thereby leſſen the national "debt, &c.

"VII. They allege," but give no particular reaſon for ſuch their allegation, "that great "advantages may accrue by employing our ſhipping in freights, from one part of India to "another, more than the preſent company has ever been able to do.

"VIII. It will prevent perſons, acquainted with the trade to India, from being under the "neceſſity, for want of employment here, of ſeeking it in foreign nations, and even will "bring home thoſe who are already engaged that way." This had a reference to certain Engliſhmen engaged in the Oſtend and Swediſh Eaſt India Companies.

Theſe were the plauſible and principal arguments made uſe of to the legiſlature, or within doors: which yet were more abundantly amplified and improved without doors, in ſeveral printed

1730 printed pamphlets and newſpapers, which carried them, as is uſually the caſe, much beyond rational probability.

Their out-door arguments or inducements, for alluring of ſubſcribers to this ſcheme, were,

"I. Certain intereſt, from the public, of four per cent. for the firſt two years, and two "per cent. certain afterwards.

"II. The additional annual profit ariſing from the before-named licences.

"III. The five per cent. on all goods imported would bring a conſiderable ſurplus over "and above the expence of ſupporting the forts and factories; ſince," as they alleged, "the "preſent company's forts and ſettlements do, one with another, more than anſwer their own "expence. And even although this propoſed company ſhould be obliged to pay the preſent "company a ſum of money for their forts and ſettlements;" could theſe propoſers make any doubt of ſo juſt and equitable a point? "yet in a few years there would a further annual "profit accrue, ariſing from the ſaid duties. For,

"IV. Even ſuppoſing the trade, under this propoſed company, ſhould not increaſe," as however they were confident it would, "beyond the amount of three millions yearly, at the "public ſales; yet five per cent. thereon would yield one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds "per annum, which makes eighty-ſix thouſand pounds more than will compleat the annuity "or intereſt of four per cent. Wherefore,

"V. It may be concluded, that the annual dividend will not at any time be leſs than five "to ſix per cent. to the ſubſcribers; ſince, as the exportations and importations ſhall increaſe, "in like proportion will the dividends neceſſarily increaſe."

Yet, notwithſtanding all the before-mentioned and ſimilar plauſible reaſonings, without doors, and of all that their friends could urge within doors; the Houſe of Commons rejected their petition, becauſe,

Firſt, It was certainly, at leaſt, hazardous to turn the Eaſt India trade into a new channel.

Secondly, It was uncertain, whether the propoſed ſubſcription would readily fill in due time.

Thirdly, Or whether their flattering expectations would anſwer, either with reſpect to the ſubſcribers, or to the nation.

Fourthly, Whether the King's cuſtoms might not be diminiſhed inſtead of being increaſed.

Fifthly, Whether by the new method of a regulated trade, the nation's general commerce to India might not in ſome degree be hurt and diminiſhed? For who can foreſee all the advantages which other European nations, trading to India, would be able to gain over us by this alteration, or the hurt our trade might receive from the Indian Princes, &c. To quit therefore a preſent certainty for a future (though plauſible) uncertainty, was not judged ſafe nor prudent.

This ſame oppoſition, however, drew from the preſent company very conſiderable advantages to the public.

Firſt, By occaſioning the company to give up one per cent. of the intereſt payable on their capital of three millions two hundred thouſand pounds. And,

Secondly, To pay, moreover, for the benefit of the public two hundred thouſand pounds for the ſervice of the current year, over and above the ſaid abatement of one per cent. of their intereſt, viz. from five to four per cent. or from one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds to one hundred and twenty-eight thouſand pounds per annum, whereby thirty-two thouſand pound

A.D. 1730 pounds per annum would be immediately added to the ſinking fund; which the company nevertheleſs were legally entitled to for ſix years longer.

Whilſt the bill was depending in Parliament, abundance of anonymous letters and eſſays were publiſhed in pamphlets and newſpapers, againſt excluſive companies in general, and more eſpecially againſt this company's excluſive trade, in particular: all the arguments which had been advanced for above one hundred years paſt, of which we have largely treated in this work, againſt monopolies in this and other mercantile companies, being on this occaſion brought again into the light, and re-publiſhed, with ſome few new improvements. "They were for having the government to take the ſupport of the forts, factories, embaſſies, &c. in India, into their own hands, out of the large cuſtoms on the India trade, which ſhould thenceforth remain free and open to all Britiſh ſubjects. For," ſay they, "the more free and open that trade is, the more profitable it will be to the nation. And although it may be true, that the laying the Eaſt India trade open, would leſſen the profit of individuals in that trade, by ſtriving to out-do and underſell one another; yet the gain to the nation would," in their opinion, "be vaſtly greater, as the emulous private adventurers, by thruſting themſelves into new ports and countries, in Arabia, Perſia, India, China, &c. would undoubtedly occaſion the exporting of much more of our manufactures and product than the company can do. And that, on the other hand, a joint ſtock company can never trade ſo frugally and advantageouſly, either for themſelves or for the nation, being in fact but one buyer and one ſeller. Who, moreover, manage their trade with a pride and expence more becoming the ſtate of Kings than of merchants; and their governors and agents in India live like Princes." And ſo they undoubtedly would do under a regulated company, or if they were under the King's immediate authority, being at ſo vaſt a diſtance from Europe. "They alſo expect to be followed by the markets, and therefore do not ſtir from their warehouſes. Whereas, on the contrary, private traders would follow the markets, would puſh into every creek and corner, and would narrowly look into the conduct of their agents in India. That the aboliſhing of the preſent company would, moreover, deſtroy the pernicious practice of ſtock jobbing, ſo fatal to perſons and families. That when almoſt all the maritime nations of Europe are now running into this trade, which will naturally diminiſh our own commerce thither; it ſeems the moſt effectual means for driving them out of this trade to lay it open to all our people." Theſe and other ſimilar arguments, (ſome of which were at leaſt inconcluſive, if not fallacious) were freely urged, both within and without doors, and were ſupported by many eminent merchants.

Laſtly, For further corroborating the oppoſition to the bill for prolonging the Eaſt India Company's privileges, three ſeveral petitions were preſented to the Houſe of Commons:

The firſt, from the merchants, traders, &c. of London, in behalf of themſelves and all other his Majeſty's ſubjects.

The ſecond, from thoſe of Briſtol:

And the third, from thoſe of Liverpool; all to the ſame effect, viz. againſt confirming the excluſive trade to India to the preſent company alone: and for obliging that company to grant licences to the reſt of his Majeſty's ſubjects to trade thither, under proper terms and conditions: alſo praying to be heard by their counſel at the bar of the Houſe, againſt paſſing the ſaid bill: which petitions were rejected.

On the other hand, it is but juſtice to the preſent Eaſt India Company, to exhibit the principal points then ſo judiciouſly by them urged, by way of reply, in their own behalf, viz.

A. D. 1730 “ I. That at preſent it ſeems to be agreed on all ſides, that the Eaſt India trade is a beneficial one to this nation, and conſequently is neceſſary to be preſerved. But the principal queſtion, is, which is the beſt method to preſerve it to us, viz. whether by a company veſted with excluſive privileges and regulations, ſuch as the legiſlature ſhall from time to time direct; or, whether the trade ſhall be left quite open to every adventurer who ſhall pay for a licence from this company.

“ II. It is but too probable, that the preſent determined oppoſition to the company proceeds, in a great meaſure, from the great gains which the company makes: for the enemies of this company are forced to go back almoſt forty years to ſearch out former miſmanagements; having nothing to allege againſt their preſent conduct.

“ III. That the company at preſent employs a vaſt ſtock in trade, their ſales amounting to about three millions yearly. And the cuſtoms accruing to the public are immenſely great, and anſwer the appropriations made of them by Parliament better than moſt other duties; they bringing in net money, clear of all drawbacks and debentures, three hundred thouſand pounds yearly. Would it then be prudent in the legiſlature to let them,” *i. e.* the ſaid cuſtom, “ fall without a certainty of at leaſt as much in the room of them.

“ IV. That the forts and factories do at preſent coſt the company three hundred thouſand pounds yearly; and doubtleſs the government could not maintain them for ſo little. That thoſe forts and other buildings are queſtionleſs the company’s property, who actually purchaſed them of the old company, and are of very great value; who, then, ſhall ſet an equitable price on them? What certainty have the government, when they are in their hands, that the propoſed open trade will be always ſufficient to maintain ſo vaſt an expence of cuſtoms and forts as ſix hundred thouſand pounds yearly? For, as every man is, by the propoſed ſcheme, left at liberty, (and will, without doubt, make uſe of it) to trade or not to trade thither, as it may ſuit his intereſt; it may happen, that one year there may go fifty ſhips for India, and another year perhaps not five. And theſe being all ſeparate traders, the government can have no certainty nor ſecurity from them, nor indeed from any other but an incorporated body, who have a great deal to loſe, and who are able to bear the ill fortune of ſome particular years trading, without preſently laying it aſide.

“ V. That by the ſeparate traders out-bidding one another in India, for the ſake of diſpatch, the prices of goods there would be raiſed ſo high, as at length not to be worth the buying. And, for the like reaſon, at home they would ſo under-ſell each other till the goods would not be worth ſelling; which was the caſe for the ſmall time that the two companies (the old and the new ones) and the ſeparate traders contended againſt each other; whereby they all did very much hurt the trade.

“ VI. That an united company will always be more diligent to watch the encroachments and attempts of other European nations in India than ſeparate traders will or can be, whoſe views naturally are contracted within the narrow circle of their own private intereſt alone.

“ VII. That although the company have a claim to a perpetuity in this trade, by the act of the tenth of Queen Anne, cap. xxviii. yet, ſome doubts ariſing touching the certainty of this right, becauſe that act only repeals the proviſoes in former acts, which directed that the privileges of trade ſhould ceaſe when the fund ſhould be redeemed, but does not explicitly enact a perpetuity of this trade to the company, in the ſame terms as the act of that ſame ſeſſion expreſsly does in favour of the South Sea Company. This company, being

A. D. 1730 "unwilling that their title to this trade (however ſtrong) ſhould prove the occaſion of diſputes hereafter, are therefore content to take up with a temporary certainty in lieu thereof, and, moreover, to give the public almoſt four hundred thouſand pounds for the ſame, by giving two hundred thouſand pounds in money, and further conſenting that their annuity of five per cent. which is not redeemable till the year 1736, be now reduced to four per cent. whereby they loſe an annuity of thirty-two thouſand pounds for ſix years to come, valued at one hundred and ninety-two thouſand pounds."

Some other leſs important arguments were at this time advanced on both ſides, which are not neceſſary to be particulariſed, becauſe already mentioned in other parts of this work, from the very commencement of the trade to India. And as there is in reality nothing new which can be hereafter advanced on this truly important ſubject, on either ſide, now and formerly ſo fully explained; we ſhall hereafter ſpare ourſelves the needleſs trouble of enlarging thereon in any future controverſy, concerning the Eaſt India commerce; after aſſuring the reader, that the author of this work has ſtudied impartiality in this, as in other parts of the work, as much as poſſible.

To conclude, the legiſlature paſſed the bill in the company's favour, entitled, An Act (in the third of George the Second) for reducing the Annuity or Fund of the united Eaſt India Company, and for aſcertaining their Right of Trade to the Eaſt Indies, and the continuance of their Corporation for that Purpoſe, upon the Terms therein mentioned. Whereby, after a full recital of former ſtatutes and charters, the company agrees, and it is enacted, "That their preſent yearly fund of one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds be reduced to one hundred and twenty-eight thouſand pounds, or from five to four per cent. from Michaelmas 1730; in conſideration whereof, and of two hundred thouſand pounds to be paid by them, for the public ſervice of this preſent year 1730, all their excluſive privileges of trade to the Eaſt Indies are continued and prolonged from Lady-day 1736, to Lady-day 1766, and three years notice then to be given; in all, including the ſaid three years notice, to Lady-day 1769, being thirty-three years; when, on repayment of their entire capital of three millions two hundred thouſand pounds, their excluſive privileges of trade ſhall ceaſe and determine. Yet, nevertheleſs, the company ſhall continue as a corporation for ever, to enjoy the Eaſt India trade in common with all other ſubjects."

There was in this act one ſingle clauſe only, of any importance, which had not been in any former ſtatute relating to this company, and aroſe from a doubt maliciouſly and unaccountably ſtarted by the company's enemies, viz. whether the three years notice ſhould be fully expired before they loſe their excluſive privileges. That clauſe therefore enacted, "That, upon the expiration of the ſaid three years, and repayment, &c. as above, their excluſive right ſhall ceaſe."

We have been the fuller here, on the objections againſt this company, becauſe the objections again ſtarted, in the year 1754, for the ſame private ends, in certain pamphlets and newſpapers, were the very ſame as now exhibited; there not being one ſingle argument or objection then advanced, any way eſſentially different from thoſe before-named; for the ſubject has been ſo long canvaſſed by men of judgment and experience, that no room is at length left to ſay any thing materially new on the ſubject.

"The company, moreover, at any time, on one year's notice after Lady-day 1736, might be paid off their whole capital, by any payments not leſs than five hundred thouſand pounds at a time: and ſo on, from time to time, on ſuch yearly notices by Parliament." The

1730 company were hereby “ likewiſe debarred from poſſeſſing in Great Britain, lands, tenements, “ &c. exceeding ten thouſand pounds yearly rent. Laſtly, two general proviſos were added, “ for ſaving the privileges, &c. of the South Sea and Levant Companies.”

In conſequence of this reduction of the company’s fund, they firſt reduced their half yearly dividend from eight to ſeven per cent. at Chriſtmas 1732.

The Royal African Company, declining more and more, ſo as not to be able to ſupport their forts and factories, on the coaſt of Africa, and the trade being thereby laid open, ſo as to endanger them, the Britiſh Parliament, in this ſame year, granted ten thouſand pounds for that purpoſe, by an Act for raiſing five Hundred and fifty Thouſand Pounds by Exchequer-bills, &c. of this third year of King George the Second: which ſum of ten thouſand pounds was granted by Parliament annually till the year 1744, when, in conſequence of the war with France and Spain, twenty thouſand pounds was granted for that end: the two following years ten thouſand pounds was again granted annually for the ſame purpoſe: but nothing was granted for the year 1747.

The South Sea Company’s remaining twenty-two Greenland ſhips brought home twelve whales in the year 1730: and their net loſs by this year’s fiſhery was eight thouſand nine hundred and twenty-one pounds five ſhillings and nine-pence, beſide wear and tear.

The French Eaſt India Company’s trade by this time was become ſo conſiderable, that, inſtead of one ſhip from India once in two years, there arrived four ſhips from thence in this year 1730.

Yet ſo much ſuperior was the Engliſh Eaſt India Company’s trade, that in the ſpring of this ſame year 1730, there ſailed no fewer than ſeventeen ſhips from India.

In the Britiſh American provinces of Pennſylvania, Virginia, and Maryland, there were about this time found mines of iron-ſtone, which they ſoon after learned to ſmelt down into pigs and ſows, and then to draw them out by flatting mills into bars. They have alſo found lead; and they had before found copper in New York.

In this ſame year, the South Sea Company’s great ſhip, the Prince Frederic, which had been long detained at La Vera Cruz, in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, occaſioned by the differences between Great Britain and Spain, arrived ſafe in the Thames, laden, for that company’s account, with four hundred thouſand dollars or Spaniſh pieces of eight in ſpecie, one hundred and ninety thouſand pounds weight of cochineal, forty-ſeven thouſand pounds weight of indigo, and one hundred and ſixty-ſeven ton weight of logwood, beſide what came in private trade: ſuppoſed altogether to be worth three hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſterling.

So unuſual a quantity of cochineal, in the company’s fine vaults, gave occaſion to the author of this work to carry down thither two phyſicians, (long ſince dead) who after a very particular examination, were quite ſatisfied that the ſaid inſect was, in all reſpects, the ſame with our Britiſh lady-bird: and that it was purely by that inſect’s feeding on the fine red juice or ſap of the Mexico ſhrub or tree, called the Prickly Pear, that this lady-bird acquired its ſuperior excellence, agreeable to what had before been aſſerted by divers authors.

We may here alſo, for once at leaſt, preſent our readers with a liſt of the chief exportations and importations for the ſingle month of May, in the year 1730, from London only, viz.

Exported—	Woollen cloth, long, ſhort, and Spaniſh		—	5,357 pieces.
	Bays, Colcheſter, &c.	—	—	6,990
	Stuffs, druggets, &c.	—	—	24,484
	Perpets and ſerges	—	—	4,108

Exported—

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Exported—	Dozens and kerſies	1,879	pieces.
	Hats, per dozen,	2,028	dozens.
	Hoſe, per dozen,	9,368	
	Flannel and cotton	53,053	yards.
	Friſe	7,858	
	Gartering	774	groſs.
	Leather	2,290	hundred weight.
	Block tin	1,036	
	Wrought pewter	499½	
	Lead	184	fodder, each 19 cwt
	Ditto, per hundred weight,	2,746	hundred weight.
	Ditto, in ſhot,	847	
	Alum	1,275	
	Copperas	4,033	
	Tobacco	866,163	pounds weight.
	Callicoes	76,847	pieces.
	Watches	47	gold.
	Ditto	113	ſilver.
	Wrought plate	972	ounces.
	Foreign ſilver	339,353	
	Foreign gold	36,294	
Imported—	Wine in caſks, chiefly pipes or butts,	4,299	caſks.
	Ditto, from Leghorn	459	cheſts.
	Ditto, Rheniſh,	1,019	aums, each 40 gall.
	Brandy from Dunkirk alone, beſide brandy from Holland,	24,687	gallons.
	Rum from the Britiſh American colonies	6,327	
	Sugar from ditto	1,421	hogſheads.
	Rice from Carolina only	3,025	
	Spaniſh Wool	1,144	bags.
	Indigo, chiefly from Spain and our own colonies,	57,784	pound weight.
	Hemp from the Eaſt Country	1,160	hundred weight.
	Thrown ſilk from Italy	31,218	pounds weight.
	Raw Silk	3,441	
	Coffee from Turkey only	1,781	hundred weight.
	Oil from Gallipoli only	390	tons.
	Holland cloth, or fine linen from Holland,	66,286	ells.
	Ditto from Hamburg and Bremen	1,232,209	
	Iriſh linen	179,114	yards.
	Linen yarn from Hamburg	73,450	pounds weight.
	Coffee from Mocha	5,000	bales.

The whale fiſhery on the coaſt of New England was proſperous in this ſame year; and the rice raiſed in Carolina (now a very thriving colony) continues to increaſe, ſince, by a clauſe in an act of Parliament in the preceding ſeſſion of the third of King George the Second, cap. xxix. For granting Liberty to carry Rice, &c. they are permitted to ſhip the ſame to any

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1730 place in Europe ſouth of Cape-Finiſterre, without being firſt landed in England, or being made an enumerated commodity, whereby they are open to all the coaſts of Spain and Portugal in the ocean, and of Spain and France in the Mediterranean, beſides Italy and the Gulph of Venice, and all the Spaniſh and Portugueſe Iſles. Provided however, that it be all carried in Britiſh ſhips, navigated as by the acts of navigation; and no other commodity be ſo carried but rice only. That commodity not being able to bear the expence of its being what is called an enumerated one; *i. e.* its being firſt landed in ſome part of Great Britain before carried to a foreign market.

By the ſtatute of the eighth of King George the Second, cap. xix. this beneficial privilege is extended to the rice of the colony of Georgia. The conſequence of both which well-judged laws has been, that our ſaid plantation rice has been preferred to the rice of Verona and Egypt, where-ever it is carried.

On the twenty-ninth of May 1730, the French King made certain regulations for his Council of Commerce, which had been firſt erected in the year 1700, which he will have now to be termed the Royal Council of Commerce, viz.

" I. That it be compoſed of the Duke of Orleans, the Cardinal de Fleury, &c. To meet " every fifteen days, or oftner as the King ſhall direct.

" II. The keeper of the ſeals, the ſecretary of ſtate for foreign affairs, and the ſame for the " marine, and the comptroller-general of the finances, ſhall make reports in each of the prin- " cipal matters relating to their reſpective departments.

" III. All their arrets and orders ſhall be ſigned by the chancellor and the other great " officers.

" IV. Reports to be made to the King of any branch of commerce, either inland or foreign, " that may require his conſideration or protection: together with the preſent ſtate of any " manufacture, in order for perfecting the ſame."

The ſuburbs of London ſtill further increaſing on every ſide, two other new pariſhes were in this year erected, viz. one called St. George in Bloomſbury, near the market of that name; and the other in the hamlet of Limehouſe, and called St. Anne, at Limehouſe. Another new pariſh, named St. Paul's, was in this ſame year erected in the town of Deptford, near and almoſt joining to the ſuburbs of London, the great increaſe of that town, by means of the dock, dock-yard, ſtorehouſes, &c. of the navy royal, chiefly occaſioning ſo great an acceſſion of workmen, trades-people, &c. that the old pariſh church was too ſmall to contain the inhabitants of ſo large a town.

The great benefit of light-houſes to all naval commerce is allowed by all men; and many ſuch are in Great Britain of long ſtanding. In this ſame third year of King George the Second a ſtatute was made, For confirming a Patent granted by her late Majeſty Queen Anne to William Trench, Eſquire, deceaſed, for erecting a Light Houſe upon the Iſland or Rock called Skerries, (near Holyhead, at the iſle of Angleſea, &c.) whereby the duties granted for maintaining the ſaid light houſe are made perpetual, it being a very great benefit to all ſhips and veſſels navigating the Iriſh or St. George's Channel, or the ſea between England and Ireland.

The Czarina of Ruſſia, in this year 1730, reſolved to re-aſſume the monopoly of tar, as practiſed by the great Czar, Peter I. it having been a very conſiderable branch of his revenue. It was at the port of Archangel that the greateſt quantity of tar was uſually delivered, moſt of which was taken off by the Dutch and Hamburgers, to the amount as was computed of forty thouſand laſts yearly, each laſt containing eleven barrels. This trade made Archangel ſtill much

A. D. 1730 much frequented by foreign ſhips; although the new city of Peterſburg has much eclipſed its former traffic, as have alſo the ports of Riga, Revel, and Narva, ſince the conqueſt of Livonia by Ruſſia; from which four laſt named ports there is alſo conſiderable quantities of tar exported.

Ten Dutch Eaſt India ſhips arriving at one time this year in holland, it may be worth relating how much ſpice of all kinds they brought home, (cloves only axcepted, of which they brought none) viz.

Brown pepper	3,145,392	Pound Weight.
White ditto	3,904	
Nutmegs	94,918	
Mace	65,604	
Cinnamon	640,000	
Long pepper	20,000	
Cubebs or pepper duſt	4,623	
Cardamums from Ceylon and Java	6,500	

The other principal parts of the cargo of thoſe ten ſhips were,

Powder Sugar	1,580,115	Pound Weight.
Salt-petre	1,450,000	
Tin from Siam	90,000	
Sapan and Caliatour wood	559,250	
Indigo	6,500	
Mother of Pearl	550	
Cowries	130,000	
Coffee from Java, Ceylon, and Mocha	306,000	
Cotton yarn, from Tutucorin and Java	36,000	
Painted ſilk ſtuffs	600	Pieces.
Callicoes, of various denominations	98,850	

But no tea nor laquered ware.

This cargo will ſhew the principal articles of the Dutch importations from India: but there came no ſhips at this time from China.

Great uneaſineſs was expreſſed at this time on account of the court of Spain's delaying to ſend the cedula or licence for the South Sea Company's great ſhip the Royal Caroline, now ready laden with a very rich cargo for the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, *i. e.* for the fair of Porto Bello, the Spaniſh Galeons being already ſailed from Cadiz; leſt Porto Bello fair ſhould be over before our ſaid-ſhip ſhould arrive there. That port and fair being appointed for the merchants of Chili and Peru, and of all the Weſtern ports and ſhores of South America, at a time fixed to come and ſupply themſelves with the merchandize of Europe. When the galeons arrive, notice is diſpatched by couries from Carthagena to Panama, Lima, Cuſco, St. Jago, and other parts, with notice alſo of the time for holding that fair, whither the merchants reſort in caravans with their treaſure; who, when ſupplied with the goods they want, return home to their ſeveral abodes, and leave Porto Bello a poor and almoſt deſolate place, till the ſeaſon of the next fair. It is thought, that by this almoſt only proſperous voyage of the South Sea Company's ſhip the Royal Caroline, that company, one way or other, might clear ſeventy thouſand pounds real profit.

1730 Great complaints were alſo at this time made without doors againſt the ſupercargoes and factors of the voyage in the South Sea ſhip the Prince Frederic, juſt returned home from the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, on account of malverſations relating to monies taken upon bottomree, clandeſtine trade, &c. needleſs now to be further enlarged on, ſince the ſaid commerce of that company will not, in all probability be revived any more.

In this ſame year, four of our Engliſh China ſhips arrived, bringing home no leſs than one million ſeven hundred and ſeven thouſand pounds weight of tea; the duty on which, at four ſhillings per pound, amounted to three hundred and forty-one thouſand pounds ſterling: and, ſuppoſing that one-third of this tea was fairly exported by certificate, the duty of which is drawn back by debenture, then the net duty of the remainder was two hundred and twenty-ſeven thouſand ſix hundred pounds. What an immenſe ſum is this to be paid to the public for one ſingle commodity.—Moreover, only three of the company's ſhips from coaſt and Bay, this ſame year, brought home the following goods, viz. no leſs than three hundred and ſeventy-one thouſand pieces of the many and various kinds of Callicoes and Indian ſilks, all to be re-exported.—Alſo,

Raw ſilk	73,000	great pounds
Salt-petre	682,000	pound weight
Pepper	93,000	
Redwood	192,000	
Cotton yarn	2,200	
Shellack	18,800	
Sticklack	9,000	

Under the years 1169, 1204, 1306, and more particularly under the year 1313, we have treated of the various removes or migrations of the greateſt or principal ſhoals of herrings in the ſeas of Europe; which at laſt, ſome centuries ago, fixed their delight on the coaſts of the Britiſh ocean. Yet, as what has once ſo been may hereafter be again, when leaſt looked for, we ought not therefore greatly to be ſurprized if thoſe delicious fiſh ſhould again remove their favours to ſome other coaſt. What at preſent has given occaſion for this remark is, the account given in the ſummer of this year 1730 by the herring fiſhers, which it ſeems did much ſurprize them, viz. That ſhoals of herrings from the North had come Southward near two months before their uſual time; particularly, in the ſeas between England and Ireland great ſhoals of them were taken in July that year, not only off the Firth of Clyde in Scotland and off Londonderry in the north of Ireland, but as far South as the bays of Dublin and Wexford. Had this humour of thoſe fiſh continued or increaſed in ſucceeding years, it might poſſibly have diminiſhed their numbers at the uſual northern parts, where they have ſo long been predominant, as at the iſles of Lewes and Shetland, whither the Scotch and Dutch fiſhers in great numbers reſort for that fiſhery: and ſuch an alteration in ſo great a branch of commerce would, without doubt, have occaſioned a conſiderable change in the commercial ſtate of ſeveral countries of Europe. But nothing extraordinary of that kind has ſince happened.

In the month of Auguſt this year, there was ſaid to have been ſhipped by the Engliſh Levant or Turkey Company no fewer than ten hundred thouſand pieces of broad cloth, in four ſhips, for the Levant; which demonſtrates the very great importance of that company's commerce to the nation.

A. D. 1730 In the ſame year, and in the month of October, we find the following remarkable importations of goods from the Engliſh American Colonies, which were entirely new and moſtly unexpected productions in thoſe colonies; and though not very conſiderable in themſelves, are nevertheleſs well worth remarking, as a great increaſe of moſt part thereof has ſince fortunately happened, viz.

Two tons of iron, from our iſland of St. Chriſtophers, found in that part of the iſland which formerly was poſſeſſed by the French.

Fifty hundred weight of hemp, raiſed in New England and Carolina.

Seventy-two bags of wool, from and produced in the iſlands of Jamaica, St. Chriſtophers, &c.

Forty tons of iron.—Thirty hundred weight of copper ore.—One hundred and fifty-ſix quintals of bees wax.—Three hundred weight of hemp.—Three hundred weight of raw ſilk: all theſe five articles raiſed and produced in the province of Virginia.

Importations this year by the Hudſon's Bay Company, viz.

Coat and parchment beaver ſkins	11,040
Ditto of cubs	4,404
Damaged and ſtage parchment	3,330
Ditto cubs	990
Martins	1,648
Damaged ditto	3,130
Otter ſkins	380
Cat ſkins	890
Fox ſkins	260
Wolverins	540
Black bear ſkins	410
Wolves ſkins	190
Wood ſhocks	30

By this trade we now ſave much money which we formerly ſent to Ruſſia for this kind of uſeful peltry, now entirely purchaſed with our own coarſe woollen and other manufactures and Produce.

We ſhall cloſe this promiſing year 1730 with a quotation from Keyſler's travels through a great part of Europe, in this ſame year, in favour of our modern Engliſh ſilk fabrications, viz. "In Italy itſelf the ſilks of Engliſh manufacture are moſt eſteemed, and bear a greater "price than thoſe of Italy: ſo that, at Naples, when a tradeſman would highly recommend "his ſilk ſtockings, &c. he proteſts they are right Engliſh."

1731 As the condition, importance, and value of all the Britiſh and ſome of the foreign colonies in America were, in the year 1731, ſet in a much clearer and more modern light than they had ever been done before, in a judicious tract of one hundred and fourteen octavo pages, entitled, The Importance of the Britiſh Plantations in America to this Kingdom, &c. conſidered, London 1731. We think a ſhort abſtract of it will be proper and uſeful, with ſome few remarks.

He begins with the iſlands, &c.

"I. If the iſland of Tobago juſtly belongs to this kingdom (as he is informed it does) it "is ſurpriſing it hath not been ſettled by us; ſince, though not quite ſo large as Barbadoes, it "is ſuperior to it for good roads, convenient rivers, and richneſs of ſoil.

1731 “ II. St. Lucia ſeems to be quit loſt to us, for, ſince the French expelled Captain Uring, ſent thither by the Duke of Montague, in the year 1725, they are become more numerous there than before.

“ III. St. Vincent and Dominica are likewiſe poſſeſſed by the French. Whoſe intercourſe with the Indians of both iſlands, who generally ſpeak French, and who are taught by them to deſpiſe all other nations, and that quiet poſſeſſion the French keep of them, give the people of Martinco and Guadaloupe the pleaſing proſpect of ſeeing all of them ſettled and fortified by them. Either of which iſles, with regard to extent and fruitfulneſs, is very little inferior to Barbadoes, and in point of convenience of roads and harbours for ſhipping far ſuperior. They both lie between the iſles of Grenada and Martinico, the former of which is one of the oldeſt ſettlements the French have in that part, producing a vaſt quantity of ſugar, cotton, and cocoa.

“ IV. Dominica lies next to Martinico, and between that and the iſles of Guadaloupe, Grandeterre, Marigalante, and Deſeada; all fine and large iſlands belonging to the French, whoſe increaſe in thoſe iſlands, within a few years paſt, is prodigious.—So that we may reaſonably reckon, that they are not fewer in number of people than all the Engliſh Leeward iſles, with Barbadoes included.

“ V. The Engliſh Leeward Iſles,” ſo called with reſpect to Barbadoes, the eaſternmoſt and windwardmoſt of all the Weſt India iſles, “ are Antigua, Nevis, St. Chriſtopher, and Montſerrat.—Theſe four iſlands, together with thoſe of Barbuda, Anguilla, Tortola, and Spaniſh Town, all ſettled on by the Engliſh, may be modeſtly conſidered altogether, as at leaſt of equal conſequence to us as Barbadoes; and are capable of vaſt improvements;” which Barbadoes is not; but is rather declining and wearing out too faſt.

“ VI. The iſle of Euſtatia is poſſeſſed by the Dutch, and is about three leagues from St. Chriſtophers; and though very inconſiderable in extent and produce, yet it carries on a great ſmuggling trade with our iſlands, by means of their ſhips from Africa, in underſelling our own people with their negroes. Saba iſle, a little to the leeward, is alſo poſſeſſed by the Dutch, but is very inconſiderable.

“ VII. A little more northward lie the iſles of St. Martin and Bartholomew; both inconſiderable, and both partly inhabited by French and partly by Dutch.

“ VIII. Santa Cruz has been twice poſſeſſed by the Engliſh, who have as often been beat out by the French; is not much leſs than Barbadoes, and inferior to none in point of healthfulneſs, fertility, good roads and bays. Yet at preſent it is not ſettled.

“ IX. Northward lies the iſland of St. Thomas, poſſeſſed by the Danes; remarkable only for its harbour, and its being a free port, and for ſmuggling.

“ X. Due weſt from St. Thomas lies the iſle of St. John de Porto Rico, inhabited by very few Spaniards; chiefly a lawleſs ſort of people: and, though inferior to none in point of fertility has nevertheleſs been much neglected by Spain.

“ XI. Hiſpaniola is divided between the French and Spaniards. The former greatly thriving and multiplying; the Spaniards daily decreaſing, many of their fine old houſes and plantations being left deſolate. So that the French are reckoned to be double the number of the Spaniards in that fine large iſland, including the ſlaves of both, and to be already poſſeſſed of the greateſt part of the iſland. The few Spaniards remaining there look upon the whole iſland as gone upon the firſt rupture between the two crowns. The almoſt amazing improvements of the French here, ſince the reign of our King William, ſhew what great things

A. D. 1731 things may be done, by able miniſters, even under an arbitrary prince.—This iſland alone is of more value than all our poſſeſſions in thoſe parts;—has excellent harbours, bays, and rivers;—and, if we except Cuba, far exceeds all the reſt of the Weſt India iſlands.

"XII. Thirty leagues weſt of Hiſpaniola lies our iſland of Jamaica, in length one hundred and fifty, in breadth fifty miles. Of the importance of which we may partly judge from the quantity of its produce annually ſhipped off for us, viz. in ſugar alone, ten thouſand tons. In cotton, indigo, ginger, pimento, rum, lime-juice, cocoa, mahogany wood, &c. two thouſand tons more. Thus, not leſs than twelve thouſand tons of our own ſhipping are conſtantly employed in that ſervice only, over and above what is employed between Jamaica and the northern continent colonies. Great are the advantages accruing to Britain from the trade between Jamaica and the Spaniards of Mexico, &c. The riſe whereof ſprung from the treaty of 1670, called the American treaty, whereby peace was firſt ſettled between the two nations in America, and till the commencement of Queen Anne's war, that trade was carried on, with ſmall interruption, to the value of three hundred thouſand pounds yearly, in various European merchandize, negroes, proviſions, &c. for all which our people were paid in good pieces of eight.

"Jamaica, however, afterwards regained much of that clandeſtine trade; by which, and by their privateers, and the money ſpent by the ſhips of war ſtationed in thoſe ſeas, they became rich and populous, until after the South Sea Company's Aſſiento factors ſettled there, when again much of their illicit trade was loſt;"—and ſaid, with too much truth, to be carried on by others.

"XIII. Much of that clandeſtine trade removed to the Dutch iſle of Curaçoa, from thence grown up to be very conſiderable in commerce and ſhipping, though of itſelf a mere barren ſpot, with only a commodious harbour, and an happy ſituation with reſpect to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies. It is ſupplied with proviſions from the two neighbouring Dutch iſles of Aruba and Bonaire; and, though yielding nothing of itſelf, is yet a market for all things; there having been ſometimes ſeen in its harbour ſixty or ſeventy ſail of ſhips together.

"XIV. Cuba Iſland is to the Spaniards the moſt important, by its ſituation, of any they have in all America. It is about ſeven hundred miles in length, and from one hundred and twenty miles to a much ſmaller breadth in ſome parts. It has an excellent ſoil, infinite numbers of cattle, and fine tobacco; great quantities of aromatic drugs and dyers ſtuffs. It has alſo fine bays and havens. What renders it ſo peculiarly beneficial to Spain, is its ſafe and well fortified harbour and port, called Havanna, being the rendezvous of all the Spaniſh fleets and ſhipping bound to Europe from any part of the coaſts of New Spain, &c. to the weſtward or leeward of the Carracas. Yet the Spaniards have been far from cultivating this fine iſland ſo well as might have been done.

"XV. The Bahama iſlands, though very numerous, and producing many things uſeful and neceſſary, and all claimed by the crown of Great Britain, yet there are but four of them inhabited by Engliſh people, viz. Providence, the principal one; Eleutheria, Harbour-Iſland, and Green Turtle Key. Yet for extent and goodneſs of ſoil, Abaco is the beſt, though not yet ſettled. And, to ſay the truth, were it not for the prevention of pirates ſettling there, none of theſe iſles would be worth our while to keep a governor, forts, and garriſon therein;" viz. chiefly at Providence, "conſidering how many finer colonies we have ſtill to improve."—He might alſo have added,—for the prevention of other European

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1731 nations from ſettling on thoſe iſlands; as there are ſeveral who would gladly ſettle thereon, were it not for our ſuperior naval power.

On the CONTINENT.

What our author ſays of Carolina, by no means comes up what with we have elſewhere related from very good authority; to which therefore we refer.

" XVI. Virginia and Maryland are moſt valuable acquiſitions to Britain, as well for their " great ſtaple commodity, tobacco, as for ſome pitch, tar, furs, deer ſkins, walnut-tree planks, " iron in pigs, and medicinal drugs.

" XVII. Maryland is of the ſame nature and produce as Virginia: and both together ſend " over annually to Great Britain ſixty thouſand hogſheads of tobacco, weighing, one with " another, ſix hundred pounds weight; which, at two pence halfpenny per pound, comes to " three hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds. And, he thinks, that the ſhipping em- " ployed to bring home their tobacco muſt be at leaſt twenty-four thouſand tons; which, at " ten pounds per ton, is two hundred and forty thouſand pounds, the value of the ſhipping; " the greateſt part thereof, by far, being Engliſh built, continually and conſtantly fitted and " repaired in England. The freight at one pound ten ſhillings per hogſhead," (the loweſt) " is ninety thouſand pounds; and the petty charges and commiſſion, on each hogſhead, not " leſs than one pound. or ſixty thouſand pounds. Which two laſt named ſums jointly, viz. " one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, we undoubtedly receive from thoſe two provinces " upon tobacco only. The net proceeds of the tobacco will be two hundred and twenty-five " thouſand pounds. All which are returned in goods; only there will further remain with us " about five per cent. commiſſion and petty charges on the ſaid goods, being eleven thouſand " two hundred and fifty pounds. There will be further imported in the tobacco ſhips from " thoſe two provinces, lumber to the value of fifteen thouſand pounds. Two-thirds where- " of is clear gain, it not coſting four thouſand pounds in that country, firſt coſt in goods; " and, as it is the maſter's privilege, there is no freight paid for it. Skins and furs about " ſix thouſand pounds value; four thouſand pounds of which is actual gain to England. So " the whole gain to England amounts to about one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds an- " nually.

" Thoſe two provinces moreover produce excellent flax; alſo wool equal to our beſt Eng- " liſh wool; of both which they make manufactures: and what they do not manufacture " themſelves, they exchange with the Pennſylvanians for rum, ſugar, melaſſes, ſalt, &c. This " author had ſeen two very promiſing iron works, one in Virginia, the other in Maryland; both " of them cloſe to water carriage as well as to the woods. So that if they had not leave to im- " port their iron, duty free, they muſt manufacture it for themſelves, which will, in time, " leſſen the exportation of our iron wares.

" The trade of theſe two provinces to all other parts of Great Britain is inconſiderable; not " employing above one thouſand tons of ſhipping to the ſugar iſlands, and in all other trades " on their own proper account. Yet there is a great number of veſſels that reſort to both " provinces, of and from our other continent colonies.

" XIX. That Pennſylvania, which has not any peculiar ſtaple, like Carolina, Virginia, and " Maryland, and was begun to be planted ſo late as 1680, ſhould at preſent have more white " inhabitants in it than all Virginia, Maryland, and both the Carolinas, is extremely remark-

" able.

A. D. 1731 “ able. And, although the youngeſt colony on the continent,” (Georgia was not as yet planted) “ they have by far the fineſt capital city of all Britiſh America, and the ſecond in magnitude. The cauſes uſually aſſigned for this vaſt increaſe of white people there, in ſo ſhort a time, are theſe, viz.

“ Firſt, Their kind treatment of the Indians their neighbours, thereby rendering that province abſolutely ſafe from their attempts. Some indeed have gone ſo far as to aſſert, that they are the only Britiſh colony that have treated the poor native Indians with humanity; for that no other Britiſh province admits of the evidence of an Indian againſt a white man; nor are the complaints of Indians againſt white men duly regarded in other colonies, whereby thoſe poor people endure the moſt cruel treatment from the very worſt of our own people, without hope of redreſs. And all the Indian wars in our colonies were occaſioned by ſuch means.

“ Secondly, The excellency of Pennſylvania's laws, whereby property is effectually ſecured to all its inhabitants.

“ Thirdly, The unlimited toleration for all manner of religious perſuaſions, without permitting any claims to eccleſiaſtical power to take place. All men who are Proteſtants, are indifferently eligible to the magiſtracy and legiſlature, let their private opinions be what they will, without any religious teſt.

“ The product of Pennſylvania for exportation is, wheat, flour, biſcuit, barrelled beef and pork, bacon, hams, butter, cheeſe, cyder, apples, ſoap, myrtle wax, candles, ſtarch, hair powder, tanned leather, bees wax, tallow candles, ſtrong beer, linſeed oil, ſtrong waters, deer ſkins, and other peltry, hemp, which they have encouraged by an additional bounty of three half-pence per pound weight, over and above what is allowed by act of Parliament, ſome little tobacco, lumber, &c, *i. e.* ſawed boards and timber for building of houſes, cypreſs wood, ſhingles, caſk ſtaves and headings, maſts and other ſhip timber, alſo drugs of various ſorts, as ſaſſafras, *calamus aramaticus*, ſnake root, &c.

“ Laſtly,” adds our author, “ the Pennſylvanians build about two thouſand tons of ſhipping yearly for ſale, over and above what they employ in their own trade, which may be about ſix thouſand tons more. They ſend great quantities of corn to Portugal and Spain, frequently ſelling the ſhip as well as cargo: and the produce of both is thence ſent to England, where it is always laid out in goods and ſent home to Pennſylvania.—They receive no leſs than from four thouſand to ſix thouſand piſtoles from the Dutch iſle of Curaçoa alone, for proviſions and liquors. And they trade to Surinam in the like manner, and to the French part of Hiſpaniola, as alſo to the other French ſugar iſlands; from whence they bring back melaſſes, and alſo ſome money. From Jamaica they ſometimes return with all money and no goods, becauſe rum and melaſſes are ſo dear there: and all the money they can get from all parts, as alſo ſugar, rice, tar, pitch, &c. is brought to England, to pay for the manufactures, &c. they carry home from us; which, (he affirms) has not for many years paſt been leſs than one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds per annum. They trade to he provinces of New England, Virginia, Maryland, and Carolina, and to all the iſlands in the Weſt Indies, except the Spaniſh ones, as alſo to the Canaries, Madeira, and the Azore iſles; likewiſe to Newfoundland for fiſh, which they carry to Spain, Portugal, and up the Mediterranean; and remit the money to England, which, one way or other, may amount to ſixty thouſand pounds yearly; but, without their trade to the French and Dutch colonies in the Weſt Indies, they could not remit ſo much to England· neither

1731 “ could they carry on their trade with the Indians if they did not take off the rum and
“ melaſſes, as well as the ſugars of thoſe colonies, in part of payment of the cargoes they
“ carry thither.

“ XX. New York and the two Jerſeys have the ſame commodities as Pennſylvania has for
“ exportation, except that they do not build ſo many ſhips. New York alſo has lately found
“ in her bowels the richeſt copper mine that perhaps was ever heard of; great quantities of
“ which have been lately brought to England. This, and the iron mines of Virginia, Maryland,
“ and Pennſylvania, might be brought to ſupply Great Britain and Ireland with all we
“ want of thoſe metals; which, too, would be paid for with our own manufactures, inſtead
“ of paying three hundred thouſand pounds of our caſh for thoſe metals to Sweden, &c.
“ New York, it is true, ſends fewer ſhips to England than ſome other colonies do, but thoſe
“ they do ſend are richer, as dealing more in furs and ſkins with the Indians: and,” he
thinks, “ they are at leaſt of equal advantage to us with Pennſylvania, both as to the money
“ they ſend us, and the manufactures they take of us. The city of New York is a moſt delightful
“ place, and has near as many inhabitants as Philadelphia has, and its country one
“ of the pleaſanteſt in the univerſe.

“ XXI. The ſoil of New England is not unlike that of Great Britain. It has at leaſt one
“ hundred and twenty thouſand white inhabitants,” he means here only the Maſſachuſet's
Bay, “ employing about forty thouſand tons of ſhipping in their foreign and coaſting trades,
“ and above ſix hundred ſail of ſhips, ſloops, &c. about one half of which ſhipping trades
“ to Europe. Their fiſheries have been reckoned annually to produce two hundred and
“ thirty thouſand quintals of dried fiſh, which, being ſent to Portugal, Spain, and up the
“ Mediterranean, yield twelve ſhillings per quintal, being one hundred and thirty-eight thouſand
“ pounds ſterling. And as their ſalt, rum, and melaſſes, as alſo their proviſions and
“ utenſils, are purchaſed for the refuſe fiſh which is not fit for the European market, and for
“ the oil made from the fiſh; the ſaid ſum may be ſaid to be all gained out of the ſea. By
“ this fiſhery and their other commerce, they are ſaid to employ at leaſt ſix thouſand ſeamen:
“ and adding to the above ſum the freight and commiſſion, all earned by our own people, and
“ reckoned at one-third more, the whole will be one hundred and ſeventy-two thouſand five
“ hundred pounds, all remitted to Great Britain. There is, moreover, their whale fiſhery,
“ employing about one thouſand three hundred tons of ſhipping. To Europe alſo, and to
“ the Weſt Indies, they ſend great quantities of lumber of all ſorts and of proviſions,” the
ſame as mentioned under the head of Pennſylvania, “ the produce whereof is likewiſe remitted
“ to England. They alſo trade to the Bay of Honduras for logwood. And as they
“ build ſhipping very cheap, they can afford to ſell their lumber, &c. to our ſugar colonies
“ at a lower rate than any other people can. Many of thoſe New England ſhips are loaded
“ from the ſugar iſlands directly for England. From New England alſo we have the largeſt
“ maſts in the world for our royal navy. From thence alſo, as from our other continent colonies,
“ we receive all the gold and ſilver that they can ſpare, none of which ever returns to
“ them: for we give them, in exchange, all manner of wearing apparel; woollen, braſs, iron
“ and linen manufactures, Eaſt India goods, &c. in all, to the value of four hundred thouſand
“ pounds yearly.

“ XXII. Newfoundland, though very thinly inhabited by us, is nevertheleſs of vaſt benefit
“ to us: we make, one year with another, about two hundred thouſand quintals of fiſh
“ there, which, at twelve ſhillings per quintal, comes to one hundred and twenty thouſand

A. D. 1731 " pounds ſterling; which may be reckoned all clear gain to this kingdom; the oil of the fiſh " paying for ſalt, &c. As this gain is obtained by the mere labour of our people, and as the " fiſhery is greatly helpful to the breeding of able ſeamen, the natural ſtrength of this king" dom; as moreover we have from Newfoundland great quantities of peltry, *i. e.* the furs and " ſkins of many kinds of wild beaſts; as deer, fox, otter, ſeal, minx, and bear, with ſome " beaver; we ought therefore greatly to prize Newfoundland.

" XXIII. The Hudſon's Bay trade employs generally three ſhips from London, carrying " thither coarſe duffle cloth or blanketing, powder and ſhot, ſpirits, &c. And in return " brings home vaſt quantities of peltry of many kinds, bed feathers, whale fins, &c. And " as that ſmall company makes a large dividend of eight, or (formerly) ten per cent. on their " capital of about one hundred thouſand pounds, beſide the employment they give to our " people, in fitting out and loading thoſe ſhips; it may truly be ſaid to be an advantageous " commerce, proportioned to its bulk.

" XXIV. The Bermuda Iſlands were formerly eſteemed extremely fertile: but they ſeem " now to be wearing out apace. In Queen Anne's war, they are ſaid to have had above one " hundred brigantines and ſloops, though now not above half that number. They take of " us whatever neceſſaries they have occaſion for, and pay us in money, which they get by " trading amongſt the ſugar iſles, &c. and alſo with chip hats for women, and whatever elſe " they can procure."

Thus we have, in brief, a politico-commercial, and, in part, a natural ſurvey of all our colonies, excepting Nova Scotia, at that time, in effect, no colony at all; being moſt unaccountably neglected till of late years: and, although written upwards of fifty years ago, ſince which time many alterations and improvements have happened in all or moſt of thoſe colonies, of which we have elſewhere taken notice; yet the principal foundation of their reſpective trades and productions being always the ſame, and many points relating thereto being treated ſo diſtinctly and methodically, as to give much light thereinto, more eſpecially to ſuch as are not practical merchants, we thought it well merited the room it has taken up. This author's concluſion is, " That Great Britain gains one million ſterling by her American colonies; " (excluſive of what we gain by any trades for negroes, or for dry goods, with the Spaniards " in the Weſt Indies) and that, in and by our colonies alone, we maintain and employ at " leaſt eighteen thouſand ſeamen and fiſhermen." Nevertheleſs, we have, in ſeveral other parts of this work, made it plainly appear, that even this author's account of the benefits we then received from the American plantations is far from comprehending all the advantages we then derived from them.

In this ſame year, the legiſlature, by an act of the fourth of King George the Second, cap. v. paid off one million of the joint ſtock of South Sea annuity ſtock, from and after Michaelmas 1731, which was accordingly divided to the ſeveral proprietors, at the rate of ſix and a quarter per cent.

In the ſame year, that company ſent out their remaining twenty-two ſhips on the whale fiſhery, one of which was loſt, and the other twenty-one ſhips brought home fourteen whales, which was far from being a ſaving voyage. At the company's dock there had at this time been invented a new ſort of gun for ſhooting with gunpowder the harpoons into the bodies of whales, at a greater diſtance than the harpoons could be thrown by hand; and the ſhips were accordingly provided with ſome of them, which were uſed both in this and the next year's fiſhery, with ſome ſucceſs. They were chiefly adapted to a calm ſeaſon, and were ſcarcely

A. D. 1731 practicable in blowing weather, which moſtly happens in the Greenland ſeas. And although the foreign harpooneers could not eaſily be brought to uſe them, as being out of their uſual method; yet in a ſhip fitted out by Mr. Elias Bird and partners, two years after, out of the three whales brought home, two of them were ſaid to be killed by that new-invented gun.

In this year 1731, a company or partnerſhip was ſet on foot in Sweden, for trading from Gottenburg to the Eaſt Indies, by authority of the King of Sweden's octroi, to one Henry Coning, a rich and underſtanding merchant, with ſuch others as ſhould join him, excluſively of all others, for fifteen years, to all or any parts from beyond the Cape of Good Hope to Japan: but they were not to trade in or at any place, within the ſaid limits, belonging to any other European nation, or ſtate, without their permiſſion. And above a million of rixdollars was preſently ſubſcribed by natives and foreigners. To pay to the crown an hundred dahlers per laſt for every ſhip they employ, and two dahlers more per laſt for port duties. This new company may be ſaid to have partly ſprung out of the ruins of the Oſtend Company; many or moſt of its ſubſcribers and managers were foreigners for a long time, and chiefly Britiſh ſubjects; the native Swedes being at firſt unacquainted with that trade: but by a ſubſequent treaty or agreement concluded between the Swediſh Court and our Engliſh Eaſt India Company, there were no Britiſh ſubjects (after a certain fixed term) to be employed in the ſervice of the Swediſh Company.

The company has had its octroi renewed, and continues annually to ſend one or two ſhips to China: but as there is not conſumption enough in Sweden for their cargoes, both this company and that of Denmark are ſaid not a little to damage our own and the Dutch Eaſt India trade, by running in upon our widely extended coaſts, tea, china-ware, ſilks, &c. and alſo by ſupplying foreign parts with ſuch Eaſt India goods as we formerly ſent thither.

A law having been made in the ſeventh and eighth of King William the Third, prohibiting the landing of any goods in Ireland, of the growth or product of the Engliſh American plantations, unleſs they ſhall have been firſt landed in England, and have paid the duties there: which law being conſtrued to extend to all manner of American merchandize, as well unenumerated as enumerated, an act of Parliament, of this fourth of King George the Second, cap. xv. For importing from the ſaid Plantations, directly into Ireland, Goods not enumerated in any Act of Parliament, explains that firſt-named act of Parliament ſo far in favour of Ireland, "That all Goods from America, not enumerated," *i. e.* which might be carried from our plantations to foreign parts, without landing them firſt in England, "might, in "like Sort, be landed in Ireland, in Britiſh Ships, navigated as in the Navigation Acts." This was doing no more than barely juſtice to Ireland, by putting her only on a par with foreign countries, in reſpect to ſuch unenumerated goods. The enumerated commodities, at this time, were, ſugars, tobacco, cotton wool, indigo, ginger, dying woods, melaſſes, rice, furs, copper ore, pitch, tar, turpentine, maſts, yards, and bowſprits; imported from, and the growth and product of the ſaid Britiſh American plantations; all which muſt firſt be landed in Great Britain, except the rice of Carolina, carried to any place ſouth of Cape Finiſterre.

In the ſame year, the fourth of George the Second, cap. xxvi. an act of Parliament paſſed, That all Pleadings in Courts of Juſtice in England, and in the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, ſhall be in the Engliſh Language. The preamble to which declares,

"That many and great miſchiefs frequently happen to the ſubjects of this kingdom, from "the proceedings in courts of juſtice being in an unknown language; thoſe who are ſummoned and impleaded having no knowledge or underſtanding of what is alleged for or againſt

"them

" them in the pleadings of their lawyers and attorneys, who alſo uſe a character not legible to " any but perſons practiſing the law: All pleadings therefore and writings ſhall henceforth be " in the Engliſh language, (excepting in the Court of Admiralty) and not in Latinn or French, " and all deeds and other writings ſhall be in a common legible hand, and without abbrevia- " tions." Strange, that this was not enacted long before.

By a ſtatute of the ſaid fourth of King George the Second, cap. xxxiii. for obviating a Doubt, &c. the ſecond penny, to be paid for penny-poſt letters and parcels, on delivery thereof, when carried beyond London, Weſtminſter, and Southwark, and their reſpective ſuburbs, and as far as within ten miles thereof, and not paſſing by the general poſt, and from thence tranſmitted by the penny-poſt, which had before been voluntarily paid by the perſons receiving thoſe letters, is now legally confirmed; becauſe in many caſes the carriers of thoſe letters are obliged to travel on horſeback to places at a conſiderable diſtance from London.

In this ſame year, the Daniſh or Norwegian colony which, in the year 1721, we have ſhewn was ſent to replant Old Greenland, returned home from thence; that climate being found ſo cold, and the country ſo barren, that even the Norwegians themſelves could not live in it. Yet it ſeems the clergyman who went out with this colony, having converted ſix hundred of the native ſavages to the Chriſtian religion, generouſly determined to remain with thoſe poor people, for the benefit of their ſouls—*Rara Avis in Terris!*

In this ſame year, the South Sea Company's great Aſſiento ſhip, the Royal Caroline, arrived in ten weeks from Porto Bello, her lading being immenſely rich: ſhe ſailed from England ten months before, with perhaps the richeſt outward bound lading of any ſhip that ever ſailed from hence. This was probably according to ſome, the only profitable voyage which this company ever made to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies; diſputes ariſing ſoon after between the two nations, concerning contraband trade, on one ſide, and the violences of the Spaniſh Guarda Coſtas, on the other; which at length broke out into open war.

At this time, the ſtates general of the United Netherlands had a diſpute with the court of Denmark about the renewing of the tarif, which ſome years ago expired, for regulating the toll to be paid by Dutch ſhips paſſing through the famous ſtreight of the Sound, into and from the Baltic ſea. It is true, there is a proverb in Holland, That the Keys of the Sound are at Amſterdam. Yet thoſe keys (*i. e.* a ſtrong ſquadron of ſhips of war to be ſent annually to keep that paſſage open) are extremely coſtly as well as hazardous. It was however amicably adjuſted on the ſame terms as before, and to which we and other nations ſubmit. It ſeems evidently the true intereſt of the court of Denmark to conduct itſelf with great moderation towards the mercantile ſhipping of the ſeveral nations of Europe paſſing this famous Sound; as any new and extravagant demands, on that ſcore, might reaſonably be ſuppoſed capable of uniting ſo many powerful opponents, who would be able to call in queſtion the very foundation on which that toll has ſtood, though for ſo many ages paſt.

In this ſame year, the King of Portugal granted his Octroi, " For one occaſional voyage " of one ſhip only, for Surat and the coaſt of Coromandel, and back to Portugal, excluſive of " all others; for which end a company or partnerſhip was eſtabliſhed, whoſe capital was " limited to ſix hundred thouſand Cruſados; the ſubſcribers were, ſome time after the return " of the ſhip, to be paid back their principal and their dividend of the profits."

Whereupon the Britiſh Conſul at Liſbon gave due warning to all Britiſh ſubjects living in Portugal, to avoid being any way concerned in this voyage; as, by an act of Parliament of the

1731 the ninth year of King George the Firſt, (particularly aimed at the then Oſtend Eaſt India-Trade) ſuch Britiſh ſubjects as ſhall ſubſcribe to or any way encourage foreign companies trading to the Eaſt Indies, ſhould forfeit all their ſtock therein, and treble the value; and any of our King's ſubjects going to, or being found in the Eaſt Indies, (other than thoſe of our Eaſt India Company) were thereby declared guilty of an high crime and miſdemeanor, &c.—as has been ſhewn under the year 1723:—which warning had the deſired effect.

In and during this ſame year 1731, there was re-exported from the port of London alone, in only two of the enumerated commodities imported from the Britiſh American Colonies, viz. of tobacco fifteen millions ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven thouſand one hundred and fifty-five pound weight, averdupois; and ſugar fifty-eight thouſand four hundred and forty-ſix hundred weight, of one hundred and twelve pounds to the hundred weight; or ſix millions five hundred and forty-five thouſand nine hundred and fifty-two pound weight: which equally ſerves to demonſtrate the vaſt benefit of our plantations to their mother country, and the vaſt foreign commerce of the city of London, the whole exports whereof in this one year conſiſting of no fewer than one hundred and five articles of different ſpecies of merchandize (many of which were very conſiderable ones), as in the woollen manufacture alone, viz.

Apparel	894	Suits
Blankets	2,216	Pair
Caps	3,847	Dozen
Caſtors and felts	10,437	ditto
Cloths long and ſhort	4,822	
Coverlids	385	
Flannel	48,436	Yards
Garments	1,577	
Haberdaſhery	827	Hundred weight
Hoſe	7,773	Dozen
Kerſies and dozens	2,319	
Perpets	1,995	
Plains	9,640	Goads
Rugs	713	
Stuffs and bays	38,915	Pieces

beſides vaſt quantities of wheat, beans, peas, and oats. Bacon, biſcuit, cheeſe, flour, Eaſt India goods in vaſt quantities; iron, copper, and braſs ware; lead and tin, tinned plates, linen, threads, and tapes, ſail cloth, &c.

And of the imports to London, there were eighty-five different ſpecies of merchandize, conſiſting of many ſorts of drugs, ſpices, cotton, deer ſkins, ivory, indigo, gums, goat ſkins, iron, many kinds of dying woods and oils, naval ſtores, rice, rum, turpentine, wine, wool, &c.

In this ſame year 1731, was concluded the famous treaty of Vienna, between the Emperor Charles the Sixth, the King of Great Britain, and the States General of the United Netherlands, for a mutual guarantee of each others dominions, and in a moſt eſpecial manner.

“ I. For guaranteeing with all their forces the order of ſucceſſion which the Emperor had “ eſtabliſhed by a ſolemn act, in the year 1713, and again confirmed in 1724, in favour of “ Primogeniture for all his heirs of both ſexes, ſo as that the eldeſt of either ſex ſhall ſucceed

A. D. 1731 "to all the hereditary dominions of the houſe of Auſtria indiviſibly for ever," commonly called the Pragmatic Sanction.

"II. For the Spaniſh Infant Don Carlos," (now King of Spain) "eventually to ſucceed to the "Dutchies of Tuſcany, Parma, and Placentia." France afterwards agreed to this Pragmatic Sanction.

"III. The Emperor, by the fifth Article of this treaty, engages to cauſe all commerce and "navigation to the Eaſt Indies to ceaſe immediately and for ever in the Auſtrian Netherlands, "and in all the other countries which were formerly under the dominion of Spain, in the "time of King Charles the Second,"—(this clauſe alſo reſpects his territories in Italy and Sicily) "in ſuch manner that neither the Oſtend Company nor any other ſhall at any time "contravene this treaty.—Excepting that the ſaid Oſtend Company may ſend for once only, "two ſhips to the Eaſt Indies, which ſhall return to Oſtend, and there ſell their cargoes.

"IV. But, by a ſeparate article, the guarantees before ſpecified of each others dominions, "in the firſt article of this treaty, are not to be extended to any diſturbance which the Turks "may hereafter give to the dominions of the houſe of Auſtria." This laſt was a very proper exception in the two maritime powers to make; ſince otherwiſe they might have involved themſelves in war with the Ottoman Porte, to the entire loſs of their Turkey trade to France, which has already conſiderably enlarged her trade to the Levant. Collections of Treaties, vol. IV. in the year 1733.

France, finding that we ſuffered the paſs of Niagara in the Iroquois country to be fortified without remonſtrance, had in this year 1731, the audacity to erect a fort at Crown Point, in the centre of the ſaid five nations, and within the undoubted limits of New York Colony; and this fort, as well as another erected by them in the ſame country, named Ticonderago, they held till both were taken by us, in the year 1759. And yet this moſt bare-faced encroachment and nearer approach towards the ocean, our then government, to their diſgrace, did not ſufficiently attend to.

The merchants trading to the Britiſh ſugar colonies and the planters, having petitioned the Houſe of Commons, "complaining againſt the Britiſh Continent American Colonies, for "their carrying on a trade with the foreign ſugar colonies of the French and Dutch, from "whence they were ſupplied with ſugar, rum, melaſſes, &c. inſtead of thoſe of our own "ſugar colonies, as well as with foreign European goods and manufactures; contrary to the "tenor or intention of the laws in being, and of the treaty with France, in the year 1686;" (of which ſee our abſtract under that year) "And they alleged, that as this new method of "trade" (firſt begun to be complained of in the year 1715) "increaſed, and enriched the "colonies of other nations, ſo it was injurious to the trade of this kingdom, and greatly impoveriſhed the Britiſh ſugar colonies; and therefore praying relief therein." Whereupon a committee was appointed, upon whoſe report a bill was brought in, and paſſed the Houſe of Commons, "For the better ſecuring and encouraging the Trade of his Majeſty's Sugar Colonies. It was indeed dropped in the Houſe of Peers: yet, as being a ſubject of the greateſt conſequence to our American commerce and colonies, we ſhall exhibit an abſtract of that bill, as it was ſent up to the Houſe of Peers, viz.

Section I. "No ſugar, rum, or melaſſes, of the plantations of foreign nations, ſhall be im"ported into Britain or Ireland, or to any of the King's dominions in America, under forfeiture "of lading, ſhip and furniture.

II. "Aiders, aſſiſters, and receivers, in landing any ſuch foreign ſugars, &c. were to for"feit treble the value thereof.

A. D. 1731 III. “ The *Onus probandi*, or proof that the ſugar, &c. ſo ſeized, was the product of the “ Britiſh plantations, ſhall lie on the proprietors of ſuch goods.

IV. “ Maſters of ſhips, taking in, at ſea, or in any creek, harbour, or other place, any “ ſuch foreign ſugar, &c. in order to be landed in Great Britain or Britiſh America, ſhall “ forfeit two hundred pounds.

V. VI. “ The maſters of ſhips lading ſugars, &c. at the Britiſh ſugar colonies, bound to “ any other part of the King’s dominions, ſhall, before he ſails, deliver to the collector of the “ port a true account of his lading, and take of him a certificate thereof, with the merchant’s “ name who ſhipped them, and of him to whom conſigned; and, when arrived at his intended “ port, ſhall take an oath and ſign a true manifeſt of his lading.

VII. VIII. “ And whereas great numbers of horſes, and great quantities of lumber have “ been exported from our Continent colonies to the foreign ſugar colonies, whereby they are “ enabled more eaſily to carry on their ſaid ſugar plantations. None ſuch were to be tranſ- “ ported hereafter to thoſe foreign colonies: and when any ſuch goods are to be ſhipped from “ the continent colonies, the maſter ſhall give a bond for five hundred pounds that they ſhall “ not be carried to any foreign colony, &c.

IX. X. “ Governors, cuſtom houſe officers, &c. conniving at any fraudulent importation “ of foreign ſugars, &c. to forfeit three hundred pounds.

XI. “ Nothing in this act ſhall extend to reſtrain the uſual importation of ſugars from the “ dominions of Portugal.”

Let us next, as briefly as poſſible, hear the allegations on both ſides for and againſt this bill.

In ſupport of the bill, it was urged, both within doors and in ſeveral pamphlets and newſpapers, “ That the ſupplying the French and Dutch ſugar colonies, with ſhipping, often ſold “ to them, as alſo proviſions, horſes, and lumber, from our continent colonies, had been “ practiſed ever ſince the peace of Utrecht; and that the ſo doing, not only made thoſe “ neceſſary commodities cheaper to them than they could have them any where elſe, but it “ alſo obliged the importers to take in payment great quantities of the ſaid French and Dutch “ ſugars, rum, and melaſſes, to the infinite detriment of the Britiſh ſugar colonies: and, “ what is ſtill more grievous and detrimental to the public, that intercourſe affords our “ Northern continental colonies an opportunity of being ſupplied with French European mer- “ chandize, although prohibited by law.

“ 2. That the quantity of ſugar now made in America being greater than Europe can con- “ ſume, it is of conſequence to us not to give foreigners a preference for the vent of their own “ produce, in any part of his Majeſty’s dominions.

“ 3. The French having power (by the above quoted treaty) to ſeize on our ſhips trading “ to their colonies, it is manifeſt that it muſt either be for their advantage, or elſe from neceſ- “ ſity, that they ſuffer it.

“ 4. That for the encouragement of the ſaid continental colonies to perſiſt in the ſaid trade, “ they have the rum and melaſſes from thoſe foreign colonies without the high duties paid for “ them when imported into Britain:—that melaſſes was formerly of little or no value to the “ French planter, becauſe rum was detrimental to France, as interfering with the conſump- “ tion of their brandy, until the French found they could ſell it to our continental people, in “ return for timber, horſes, oxen, and proviſions, ſo needful for them; whereby alſo they “ ſaved ſo much money in ſpecie;—and that even the money which they receive at our own “ ſugar iſlands, in payment for their lumber, proviſions, horſes, &c. is now carried to the “ French ſugar iſlands for the purchaſe of their melaſſes and rum. Near one-half of the “goods which our continental people now carry to our own ſugar iſlands, being paid for in money, and not by barter, as formerly; whereby the French are enabled to increaſe their ſettlements, and alſo their negro trade.

“5. That this intercourſe, moreover, enhances the price of negroes to our ſugar colonies, as well as of proviſions, lumber, &c.—being a great diſcouragement to them, and more eſpecially to Jamaica and St. Chriſtopher's, where there are great quantities of land for new ſettlements.

“6. That there are perſons ſtill living, who very well remember, that there were great quantities of proviſions and other requiſites for planting, ſent from Old England to our ſugar colonies, becauſe at that time our northern continent colonies were not able fully to ſupply them: whereas now, the chief benefit which the ſaid northern colonies yield to their mother-country, is, their being able to ſupply our ſugar colonies with thoſe neceſſaries much cheaper than they could have them elſewhere: and that our ſaid continent people ſhould be kept to that way alone of trading to our Weſt India iſles, together with their fiſheries, and raiſing naval ſtores, flax, hemp, indigo, &c. allowing them, however, any other commerce to foreign countries, not detrimental to their mother-country.

“7. That whereas it is alleged by the continental people, that if they were reſtrained from ſupplying the French ſugar iſles, they might be ſupplied from their own continental colonies with lumber, from their ſettlements at Mobile, Penſacola, and Fort Louis, in the bay of Apalachy, whereby” ſay the advocates for them, “they would be put upon greatly improving and peopling their ſaid colonies, and thoſe of Miſſiſippi, from whence ſome ſhips have already begun to bring lumber to the French ſugar iſlands; and with the ſame, and alſo with proviſions from Canada.” This the ſugar iſland advocates abſolutely denied, ſaying, moreover, “That thoſe French continental colonies could not take off their rum and melaſſes in return; and that Canada is a barren country, and its river only navigable in ſummer months.

“8. That whereas we formerly ſupplied even France, as well as Holland, Germany, Italy, &c. with ſugars; it is chiefly by the above means that we are now almoſt wholly confined to the home conſumption of Great Britain; being in a great meaſure excluded from Ireland, by clandeſtine importations, and from the northern continental American colonies, who, inſtead of carrying their product to our own ſugar colonies, as formerly, do now carry the ſame to our rivals in exchange for their rum and melaſſes.

“9. That with reſpect to Barbadoes, in particular, they are at a great expence in their fortifications and their militia, without any charge to the crown; beſide the four and half per cent. in ſpecie, which they pay to the crown on all their exports, and which amounts to about ten thouſand pounds yearly. That moreover, Barbadoes employs conſtantly one thouſand of our own ſeamen, and ten thouſand tons of our ſhipping: and that the kingdom gains annually from this ſmall iſle” (little larger than the Iſle of Wight) “ninety-five thouſand pounds ſterling. Whereas the French and Dutch pay much lower duties than Britiſh ſubjects do, both at home and in their plantations.

“10. That of late the Dutch have extended their colonies at Surinam, Eſekebe, and Berbecies,” (places on the continent, in the province of Guiana) “making much greater quantities of ſugar, rum, and melaſſes, than formerly; a great part of which they ſell to our continental colonies, in return for horſes, proviſions, and lumber.

A. D. 1731 " 11. Laſtly, it was aſſerted, that the produce of our ſugar iſlands may be eſtimated and " valued at one million five hundred thouſand pounds per annum, which is ſo much additi- " onal wealth to Great Britain; and that the actual or direct gain ariſing, one way or other, " to Great Britain, from our ſaid ſugar colonies, can be no leſs than one million two hundred " thouſand pounds per annum; ariſing,

" Firſt, From the vaſt quantities of Britiſh manufactures conſumed by them.

" Secondly, For the ſame manufactures and product ſent to the Guinea coaſt for the pur- " chaſe of negroes for theſe ſugar iſlands.—And,

" Thirdly, From the accumulated freight of the ſhipping employed in thoſe two branches, " —the gain on the ſugars re-exported,—the cuſtoms,—the commiſſion,—the victualling and " re-fitting of the ſhips, &c.

It was alſo alleged, " That four-fifth parts of all the gains of a ſugar plantation center in " Great Britain, and the other fifth part formerly centered in the northern colonies ſolely; but " now one-half of that fifth part is taken away in caſh, and carried to the French plantations " to buy their ſugar, rum, and melaſſes.

On the other hand,

It was inſiſted, in behalf of the Britiſh northern continent colonies of America, viz. New " England, Rhode Iſland, New York, Pennſylvania, and the Jerſeys,

" I. That as all the ſugar, rum, and melaſſes of our ſugar iſles are taken off at high prices by " Great Britain and our ſaid northern colonies; it would be very impolitic to obſtruct the lat- " ter from taking melaſſes, and even rum, from the French iſlands, for the ſupply of their " Indian trade, and much more of their fiſheries: as our own ſugar colonies are unable to " ſupply the immenſe quantity of melaſſes which thoſe two trades demand; more eſpecially as " from the French iſlands they receive in payment ſilver and cocoa, as well as melaſſes, (but " ſeldom ſugar or rum) which ſilver comes ultimately to Great Britain to pay for the balance " of trade: and the ſaid northern colonies diſtil the melaſſes into rum, for the above-named " purpoſes.

" II. That by this trade the northern colonies are enabled to make ſuch conſiderable re- " mittances to England, in ready money, as they could procure no where elſe but by their " traffic with the foreign colonies, as well as by indigo, cocoa, ſugar, and rum, both from " Britiſh and foreign colonies, for enabling them to pay for the great quantities of our " manufactures which they yearly take of us.

" III. That if the northern colonies were not permitted to ſupply the French iſlands with " lumber, they could have it, though ſomewhat dearer, from their own colonies in the Bay " of Apalachy;" (this is already anſwered under article 7.) " and that our horſes would be " of little or no uſe, if not bought up by the French, who, beſides, could have them, as " alſo mules, from the coaſts of New Spain and New Andaluſia, and from the Dutch iſle of " Curaçoa.

" IV. That the Britiſh ſugar iſles employ no ſhips but for their own ſugars and ſome few " other commodities, and what aſſiſtance they afford to the negro trade: whereas, for every " ſhip which they uſe, the northern continental colonies employ ten at leaſt, and not only uſe " great quantities of Britiſh goods themſelves, but moreover ſupply the Indian nations behind " them with vaſt quantities thereof, whereby they ſet on work a much greater number of " hands in Great Britain than the ſugar iſlands can do.

" V. That

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“ V. That the late great improvements in the Dutch and French ſugar colonies are purely owing to their induſtry and frugality on one hand; and, on the other, to the notorious luxury and extravagance of the people in our ſugar iſles, who, inſtead of endeavouring to regain their former trade, by lowering their prices, would now gain it by force, by the help of an act of Parliament, to oblige all the ſubjects of Great Britain, both at home and in America, to take off their merchandize on their own terms, for the ſupport of that luxury and extravagance for which they have been ſo long famous.—That the high prices of their ſugars have been the means of loſing their former European markets; and, if continued to be raiſed higher, will loſe all that is ſtill left. So that in the end, the ſubjects of Great Britain alone muſt ſupport theſe people in luxury and indolence.—That Barbadoes was formerly wont to trade with the French and Dutch, and, by taking off their ſugars, prevented their ſeeking out for other markets, whereby they” (*i. e.* Barbadoes,) “ gained the ſugar trade almoſt entirely into their own hands: but they loſt it again in the year 1715, by laying a duty on foreign ſugars, &c. too high to be ſupported.

“ VI. That the conſumption of rum in New England is ſo great, that an author on this ſubject aſſerts, that there had been twenty thouſand hogſheads of French melaſſes manufactured into Rum, at Boſton, in one year: and as a gallon of melaſſes will make a gallon of rum, this will amount to one million two hundred and ſixty thouſand gallons of rum in one year: ſo vaſt is the demand for that liquor, by their fiſhery, and by the Indian trade. If then, the trade from New England to the French iſlands was to be prohibited, how much would our American fiſhery, and the Indian trade ſuffer for want of rum? Seeing that all the rum from our own ſugar colonies is now entirely taken off by Great Britain and her colonies. And if the northern colonies, ſhould buy up all the melaſſes and rum which our ſugar iſlands can make, then, not only the duty on rum imported into Great Britain and Ireland would be ſunk, which now produces a large ſum, but the French would bring their rum to the European markets, and would probably run it in upon us. About forty years ago,” *i. e.* about the year 1690, “ the melaſſes were entirely waſted in Jamaica, where they produced fine ſugars long before they made any rum, which they at length learned to make from the Barbadians, and now make it better than their original teachers. At firſt, our northern continent colonies took off all that they made; but when they came to excel in the goodneſs of it, ſo as that they found it would better anſwer to ſend it to England, they thereby raiſed the price ſo high, that now very little of it is taken from Jamaica by our northern colonies.

“ In fine, if the northern American colonies and Great Britain do now actually take off all the ſugar, rum, and melaſſes, which our ſugar iſles do or can poſſibly produce; and that the northern continental colonies do, moreover, take off ſuch vaſt quantities of rum and melaſſes from the French of Martinico, and do likewiſe get a great deal of them from Surinam, Guadaloupe, Granada, Cape Francois, Cayenne, &c. ſhould, all but our own ſugar, rum, and melaſſes, be abſolutely prohibited, many great inconveniencies would follow, viz.

“ Firſt, We ſhould loſe the employment of ſeveral thouſand tons of ſhipping, in the trade between the northern colonies, and thoſe foreign ſugar colonies.

“ Secondly, The ſaid northern colonies could not poſſibly be ſupplied with near the quantity of rum and melaſſes which they need for carrying on the profitable trades before-mentioned.

“ Thirdly,

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1731 "Thirdly, This would put a moſt dangerous monopoly into the hands of our own ſugar planters, ſo as that the Indian and fiſhery trades of our ſaid colonies could not afford to pay the rates which would be demanded, even ſuppoſing our iſlanders could make ſufficient quantities of thoſe goods for both the American and Britiſh conſumption.

"Fourthly, It would greatly increaſe the French ſhipping and navigation; not only in bringing lumber, horſes, &c. to their own ſugar iſlands, but in carrying from thence to Europe all their rum and melaſſes, where no doubt they would find markets for them, as they already do for their ſugars, ſo as to have beaten us out of, and to underſell us in Holland, and at Hamburg, Cadiz, &c.

"Fifthly, And if the Barbadians complaint be true, viz. that their lands are ſo far worn out, that it requires the labour of three negroes to produce as much ſugar as could formerly be raiſed by the labour of one negro, they need but remove to Jamaica, where they may have excellent freſh land enough; and as the value of ſuch new land is a trifle, when compared to the value of the ſtock required for a ſugar plantation, which is the principal article for eſtabliſhing ſuch a plantation, they have that entire to carry along with them to Jamaica; and the charge and trouble of their removing thither would be amply compenſated by the abundant product of thoſe new lands, and which conſequently would enable them to underſell the French and Dutch plantations, the only ſeeming means left for our recovering the trade of the re-exportation of our ſugars.

"Sixthly, That from the foreign ſugar colonies our northern colonies bring back conſiderable quantities of gold and ſilver, along with their ſugar, rum, and melaſſes; whereby they are enabled to pay to Great Britain for the vaſt quantities of its product and manufactures, which they take of their mother country, and which, without this trade ſo much complained of, they could not poſſibly pay for.

"Laſtly, That the prohibiting the continental people from purchaſing of the foreign colonies their ſugar, rum, and melaſſes, or even the laying high duties on them, would utterly deſtroy a commerce of ſuch great conſequence to the northern colonies, as that without it they could not carry on their fiſheries,—their trade for peltry with the Indians, and their navigation. Neither could they diſpoſe of the product of their lands and labour, a great part of the profits whereof centers in Great Britain, in payment of the manufactures, &c. they have from thence. Upon the whole," ſay the advocates for the northern Britiſh colonies, "the ſecret and real view of the Sugar Iſlands, is, to gain the abſolute monopoly of ſugar and rum, with reſpect to the ſubjects of Great Britain, to themſelves; that ſo they may have it in their power to exact what prices they ſhall pleaſe from the buyers."

Notwithſtanding all which plauſible allegations on both ſides, in a matter of great importance to our commercial intereſts, there was nothing legally decided until two years later, viz. till the year 1733. And indeed where ſuch material alterations are required to be made in a long eſtabliſhed, or even connived courſe of any important branch of commerce, great and ſerious deliberation, and mature obſervation and conſideration, ſeem abſolutely requiſite in a nation, like ours, whoſe principal ſupport depends ſo much on commerce and plantations.

1732 By a ſtatute of the fifth year of King George the Second, cap. xvii. one million of money was paid off the South Sea Company's capital ſtock, out of the ſinking fund, from and after Midſummer 1732; but that company, having a large bond debt, occaſioned by the miſmanagements in the year 1720, their general court, inſtead of dividing that money among the proprietors, agreed to pay off one million of bonds therewith, whereby ſo much of their capital

A. D. 1732 ſtock was annihilated, being ſix and a quarter per cent. which was accordingly written off from each proprietor's account.

The hat manufacture being long ſince brought to perfection in England, and great quantities thereof annually exported to many foreign parts, and particularly to the Britiſh American plantations, till of late years, that great quantities of hats have been made in the continental plantations, and from thence exported to foreign markets, which were heretofore ſupplied therewith from Great Britain. For remedy whereof, it was now enacted, by cap. xxii. of the ſaid fifth year of King George the Second, To prevent the Exportation of Hats out of any of his Majeſty's Colonies or Plantations in America, &c. "That no hats or felts whatever "ſhall be exported from any of the ſaid plantations to foreign parts, nor ſhall be laden on any "horſe, cart, or other carriage, with that intent, under forfeiture thereof, and of five hun"dred pounds for every ſuch offence, and aiders or abettors therein ſhall forfeit forty pounds; "and cuſtom-houſe officers, permitting entries of ſuch hats to be made, ſhall forfeit their "office and five hundred pounds. None ſhall make hats in the ſaid colonies, but ſuch as "ſhall have ſerved an apprenticeſhip thereto, of ſeven years. And no maſter to have at any "time above two apprentices, nor ſhall he employ any negro in that manufacture." The conveniencies, in point of cheapneſs, which the Americans have beyond their then mother country, by the plenty of beaver, hare, coney wool, and many other furs, gave them ſuch advantage, that had they not been thus reſtrained, they would ſoon have ſupplied all the world with hats. And as our people were continually increaſing in thoſe plantations, we can ſcarcely too often inculcate the opinion of knowing and intelligent men, that nothing will be able to prevent thoſe people from manufactures interfering with ours, but their being conſtantly employed in raiſing naval ſtores, and other rough materials for our own manufactures, ſuch as ſilk, flax, hemp, iron, &c.

Conſiderable quantities of coffee being by this time produced in, and begun to be imported from Jamaica into Britain, the legiſlature, for its encouragement in our Britiſh plantations, by an act of this ſame fifth year of King George the Second, cap. xxiv. For encouraging the Growth of Coffee in his Majeſty's Plantations in America, reduced the inland duty thereof, coming from thence, (but of none other) from two ſhillings to one ſhilling and ſix-pence per pound weight. It ſeems, that the French at Martinico, Hiſpaniola, and at the Iſle de Bourbon, near Madagaſcar, had ſomewhat the ſtart of us in this new production, as had alſo the Dutch at Surinam; yet none has hitherto been found to equal the coffee of Arabia, from whence all the reſt of the world originally had theirs. Yet, in length of time, our people, as well as thoſe of other nations, may bring it to good perfection, ſo that our colonies will be the better enabled to take off more of our product and manufactures, whilſt we ſhall ſave a great deal of the price we now pay for the coffee of the Eaſt.

In the ſame year, the South Sea Company again ventured to ſend out their remaining twenty-one ſhips on the whale fiſhery. It was the laſt attempt they made for recovering to Great Britain that valuable branch of trade, by which they found themſelves to be very great loſers. Thoſe ſhips brought home twenty-four and a half whales; which likewiſe proved a very loſing voyage.

And now that company having ventured full as far as (and many thought further than) in prudence they ought to have done in the ſaid whale fiſhery, in conſideration of their having, for eight years together, been conſiderable loſers in every one of thoſe years; it was judged to be

1732 be high time to lay it aſide entirely. Wherefore they ſold off all their ſhips, ſtores, and utenſils: and, upon finally ſtating the accounts of this fiſhery, it appeared,

	£.	s.	d.
That their total iſſues or diſburſements, on account of their ſaid Greenland or whale fiſhery, preparatory to and during the ſaid eight years, amounted to the ſum of — — — —	262,172	9	6
And the total amount of the ſales of their oil and whale-fins, in the ſaid eight years time, as alſo of the ſale of all their ſhips, ſtores, and utenſils, was but — — — — —	84,390	6	6
So the net balance or loſs ſuſtained by this Greenland fiſhery, in principal money alone, without reckoning the intereſt on the money advanced in each of the ſaid eight years, was	177,782	3	0

It has been uſually computed, that if a Greenland ſhip brought home but three whales, it would be a reaſonably-gainful year: but, moſt unfortunately for the South Sea Company, they had not, in all the eight years fiſhery, brought home at the rate of one entire whale per ſhip, taking one year with another. It has, moreover, been a maxim among the whale fiſhing-adventurers, that one good fiſhing year in ſeven uſually makes up the loſſes of ſix preceding bad years. But it was very unhappy that all the ſaid eight years happened to be bad, not only to the company, but to moſt of the adventurers of other nations. It muſt, however, be allowed by all, that this company, by ſuſtaining ſo great a loſs as two hundred and thirty-ſeven thouſand one hundred and forty-two pounds ſix ſhillings and two-pence, intereſt included, for endeavouring to promote ſo national a benefit, has greatly merited the favour of the public. And, moreover, that if this fiſhery could have been brought to be profitable to the company, it would moſt certainly have been a gainful one to the nation, as will plainly appear in the following and ſimilar reſpects, viz.

I. By ſaving great ſums of money ſent annually beyond ſea for the purchaſe of oil and whalebone, which we abſolutely cannot be without.

II. By building and employing ſo great a number of ſtout ſhips as probably this company would have employed, (perhaps as far as one hundred) had ſucceſs attended their fiſhery.

III. By the great number of good ſeamen, of whom this fiſhery is allowed to be an excellent nurſery; the company actually employing annually from nine hundred and fifty to one thouſand one hundred ſuch; beſide thoſe employed at the dock in ſail making, and in the rope yard, cooperage, &c.

IV. By the number of ſhip-builders, coopers, rope-makers, ſail-makers, and labourers; and alſo the employment given to butchers, bakers, brewers, diſtillers, painters, ſmiths, turners, ſlopſellers, ſhip-chandlers, and all the other numerous trades depending on the fitting out of ſhips.

V. Laſtly, By the benefit accruing to the landed intereſt, from the great quantity of proviſions of various kinds, conſumed by the men in thoſe ſhips, as well as to the public revenue by the exciſe and cuſtoms paid for liquors and many other things uſed in this trade.

Now, if from the laying aſide of this one ſingle and ſmall branch of trade, ſo many perſons were diſmiſſed to the wide world, to ſhift for themſelves and families; and ſo many trades and occupations were to ſuffer a conſiderable diminution of the former annual emoluments; as by the

A. D. 1732 the print of Hercules's foot, they framed a judgment of his whole bulk and ſtature, we are, in ſome meaſure enabled, on the one hand, to frame an idea of the immenſe benefit and profit ariſing to this nation from its preſent general and total foreign commerce: as, on the other hand, we may form a clear judgment of the inexpreſſible miſery, depopulation, and deſolation, which a general declenſion of commerce would bring upon this now happy nation.

It may not therefore be amiſs, on this occaſion, to exhibit the whole quantity of the proviſions of all kinds expended by the South Sea Company in their eight years whale fiſhery, as a further (though but ſmall) teſtimony of the benefits accruing to the public by our navigation and commerce, viz. beef and pork, one thouſand three hundred and eighty hundred weight, two quarters, fifteen pounds; beer, four hundred and ſixty-ſix tons, one barrel, twenty-two gallons; ſtockfiſh, ten tons, nine hundred weight, three and a half quarters; brandy, one thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-eight and a half gallons; butter, four hundred and forty-eight firkins; cheeſe, two hundred and forty hundred weight, three quarters, two pounds; peas and oatmeal, one thouſand one hundred and fifty-ſeven and a half buſhels; bread and flour, one thouſand and forty-four hundred weight, two quarters, fourteen pounds; grout or grots, one hundred and ten hogſheads. All which proviſions coſt the company no leſs a ſum than forty-three thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-eight pounds two ſhillings and three-pence.

In the ſame year the Dutch Eaſt India Company reſolved to make a dividend of twenty-five per cent. to their proprietors, for the year 1732, to be paid in May 1733: which ſhews the immenſe benefit as well as the prudent management of that company, who, it is ſaid, never yet divided at any one time the entire profits they made by their immenſe commerce, but always reſerved what we call a neſt egg, for accidents. Whilſt, on the other hand, the Dutch Weſt India Company, who at firſt and for ſome time made vaſt profits by their commerce, took a quite contrary courſe, by making large and extravagant dividends, which raiſed the nominal but depreſſed the real and intrinſic value of their ſtock. So that when their firſt difficulty came upon them from the Portugueſe, in the middle of the laſt century, they had not means ſufficient to prevent their being driven out of Braſil by that nation, to their inexpreſſible loſs. And the ſame happened to that company a few years after, by their being driven out of the fine countries of New York and New Jerſey, and hundreds of families who had ventured their all in that company were undone by it. A leſſon for all ſuch trading companies to uſe the greateſt caution in their annual dividends.

In this ſame year Pope Clement XII. erected his city of Ancona, on the Adriatic ſhore, into a free port for all nations, beſtowing on ſuch perſons and families, as ſhould ſettle there, various conſiderable exemptions from taxes and burdens, as alſo ſeveral exemptions from duties, &c. on ſuch foreign ſhips as ſhall reſort to that port for commerce. This has ſince had ſome conſiderable effect, that city and port being now more frequented than at former periods.

The proſperity of the kingdom of Ireland being very much for the intereſt and glory of Great Britain, the wealth, ſtrength, and populouſneſs whereof contributing to our own; we ſhall here obſerve, that an ingenious anonymous piece was publiſhed in this year, in vindication of that country from the clamours raiſed about the clandeſtine trade of running of wool and woollen goods from Ireland to foreign parts, with the beſt remedy for the ſame. In a letter to a Member of Parliament.

I. In general he undertakes to ſhew, " That although the quantity of wool and woollen " yarn ſent from Ireland to England be leſs at preſent than formerly, and is daily decreaſing;

" yet

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1732 “ yet it is not occaſioned from a greater quantity thereof being run beyond ſea, but from other after-mentioned cauſes; which he introduces by ſhewing the total quantities of wool and yarn imported into England in different periods, from 1687 downward; and that, in proportion to the gradual decreaſe of that importation, Ireland generally has increaſed in people; becauſe, meeting with other employment, firſt by tillage and ſince by their linen manufactures, they have bred much fewer ſheep, having turned much of their ſheep walks into tillage and the paſture fit for black cattle and horſes.”

II. He obſerves, “ That in the year 1672, the people of Ireland were computed to amount to one million one hundred thouſand, and in 1684 they were one million two hundred thouſand: that ſoon after King William's reduction of Ireland they did not exceed one million and forty thouſand,” occaſioned doubtleſs by ſo many of their Papiſts going beyond ſea to France, Spain, &c. “ but that, in the year 1725, they were riſen again to at leaſt one million ſix hundred and ſeventy thouſand people. That the devaſtation in 1641, and the encouragement given to Papiſts towards the end of King Charles the Second's reign, diſcouraged Proteſtants from ſettling there; and thoſe there already being indolent, by reaſon of the cheapneſs of land and proviſions, the bulk of their lands (the people being few) was employed in grazing of cattle and ſheep, which occaſioned a great increaſe of the exportation of wool to England. That the great increaſe of people there, about the year 1725, by the increaſe of their linen and other manufactures, having brought thither much more wealth, more tillage was wanted, and the ſheep walks were much leſſened. Thus, he thinks it evident, that the decreaſe of the importation of wool and yarn to England does not proceed from a greater, or indeed ſo great, a quantity thereof being at this time run beyond ſea, but purely from the laſt-named cauſes, and to the increaſe of dairies, and of the conſumption of more ſheep and wool, to feed and cloath their people.

III. “ It was therefore a very wiſe meaſure of England, in encouraging the linen and hempen manufactures of Ireland, as the only effectual way to employ their poor, and prevent the increaſe of their wool; as may be ſeen by the few ſheep there are now in the linen counties, compared to former times; more particularly in the province of Ulſter, wherein the linen manufacture is univerſally ſpread, they not having ſheep enough to ſupply their markets with food, nor the people with cloathing. In moſt parts alſo of the other three provinces of Ireland, the ſheep walks are conſtantly decreaſing, and tillage, dairy, and feeding of black cattle and horſes, increaſing along with the linen manufacture, ſpreading faſt into moſt counties. And, although it is not denied, that ſmall quantities of wool and its manufactures are ſtill clandeſtinely exported, yet it does not go out in ſuch quantity as has been imagined from the decreaſe of the export of wool and yarn to England. Our brethren of England may therefore ſee,” ſays this ingenious Iriſhman, “ that, if prudent meaſures be taken, Ireland in a little time will have no more wool nor woollen manufacture than is neceſſary for its own conſumption.

IV. “ Thus,” continues he, “ even the greateſt part of the wool of Ireland is now neceſſary to employ the clothiers of Dublin, who ſupply moſt parts of that kingdom with woollen goods. It is alſo certain, that moſt of the woollen and bay yarn ſpun in the weſt of Ireland, as well as great quantities from Dublin, is exported to England.”

We ſhall only add, That as the quantity of all kinds of linen imported into the port of London alone, in the year 1731, was very near fourteen millions of ells, from Holland, Germany, and the Eaſt Country; the greateſt part of which is again exported to our plantations

in

A. D. 1732 in America, and our factories in Africa, &c. and as the poor of Scotland and Ireland generally live nearly as cheap, as the poor in thoſe foreign countries, it is to be hoped, that all manner of encouragement will be given, as indeed has in a great meaſure already been done, for their manufacturing the ſame, inſtead of foreign nations; but moſt eſpecially inſtead of the people of Ruſſia, Poland, and Pruſſia, to whom we pay a great annual balance in money for their linen, naval ſtores, &c.

The number of ſhips belonging to the port of London, according to Mr. Maitland's account for the year 1732, which, in his Survey of London, he ſays was taken from the general regiſter at the cuſtom-houſe; from fifteen tons to ſeven hundred and fifty tons, was one thouſand four hundred and ſeventeen ſhips; containing one hundred and ſeventy-eight thouſand five hundred and fifty-ſeven tons, navigated by twenty-one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſeven men. Of which ſhips there was one hundred and thirty from three hundred to five hundred tons, and eighty-three from two hundred to three hundred tons; all the reſt were under two hundred tons, excepting the great South Sea Company's ſhip of ſeven hundred and fifty tons.

Ten Dutch Eaſt India ſhips being arrived this year in Holland from Batavia, their vaſt cargoes may be worth recording in this work, viz.

Silk ſtuffs	10,700	pieces.
Raw ſilk, from Bengal,	81,985	pounds weight.
Callicoes	86,515	pieces.
Pepper, black, white, and long,	1,419,427	pounds weight.
Tea	653,552	
Nutmegs	389,940	
Mace	136,906	
Cinnamon	128,000	
Sugar, powdered and candied,	924,341	
Candied nutmegs	80,000	pots.
Cardamums	6,850	pounds weight.
Java coffee	1,872,375	
Cubebs	5,200	
Saltpetre	592,028	
Benzoin	11,700	
Borax	1,015	
Aguil-wood	200	
Caliatour-wood	285,069	
Cowries	125,419	
Cotton yarn	72,843	
Gumlack	17,100	
Walking canes	1,500	pieces.
Indigo	11,222	pounds weight.
Curcuma	21,487	
Mother of pearl	1,810	
China root	1,445	
Sapan-wood	556,215	
Powder of pearl	64	

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Malacca tin — — —	23,600 pounds weight.
Siam tin — — —	67,141
Diamond — — —	1 rough
Rings — — —	2 diamond
Boxes — — — —	2 gold.

In this ſame year, a number of gentlemen of diſtinction and worth ſet on foot one of the moſt diſintereſted, charitable, and (to the public) beneficial deſigns that was ever undertaken. Hitherto all our American colonies were profeſſedly planted for the immediate benefit of the undertakers: but this was ſolely for a national and charitable purpoſe, without any other benefit to the undertakers than what reſults from the pleaſure of doing good. Moſt of them were members of Parliament, who having lately had occaſion to obſerve the miſery of the priſoners confined in our goals for debt, were moved with compaſſion for the relief of ſuch unfortunate objects, who, were they ſettled in ſome new colony in our plantations, might, inſtead of a burden and diſgrace, prove a great national benefit; and, moreover, many perſecuted and other Proteſtants from beyond ſea might take the benefit of ſuch a colony for ſetting up their reſt there, with the free enjoyment of their civil and religious liberties. There was ſtill a great part of the charter limits of South Carolina remaining unſettled, ſouthward, next to Florida, which it was highly the intereſt of Great Britain to occupy and plant as ſoon as poſſible, leſt either the Spaniards from Florida, or the French behind it, from their uſurpation of the Miſſiſippi, ſhould ſeize on and occupy what they ſo found unoccupied; more eſpecially as the latter people greatly lament their not having any footing on any part of the eaſtern ſhores of North America, ſo as to communicate more eaſily with their ſugar iſlands, their voyages to and from their Miſſiſippi colony being by no means ſo convenient for receiving from thence ſupplies of proviſions, lumber, &c. which therefore they were ſtill obliged to take from the Britiſh continental colonies. This vacancy then was judged abſolutely requiſite to be filled up as ſoon as poſſible.

Theſe reaſons were ſufficiently cogent for gentlemen of ſo public-ſpirited a character and diſpoſition to make the attempt. But firſt they were authorized by his Majeſty's perpetual charter, which they obtained in this ſame year, on the ninth of June; "empowering twenty-one gentlemen by name, and ſuch others as they ſhould from time to time elect into their body, to be truſtees for eſtabliſhing the colony therein named Georgia in America, bounded between the moſt northern ſtream of the river Savanna and the moſt ſouthern ſtream of the river Alatamaha," above one hundred miles, "along the ſea coaſt, and extending weſtward from the heads of the ſaid rivers in direct lines to the South Sea, with the iſlands within twenty leagues of the ſea coaſt. The ſaid truſtees were thereby empowered to receive and manage the contributions of all perſons and corporations inclined to give money for the tranſporting of people to and ſettling them in the ſaid country. This corporation was made capable in law to hold and purchaſe lands, &c. in Great Britain, to the value of one thouſand pounds yearly, and in America to an unlimited value, for the ſaid charitable purpoſe. Their common council to conſiſt of fifteen perſons, with power to make them up twenty-four," as they afterwards were. "This corporation might iſſue commiſſions to others, for collecting contributions. Yielding annually to the crown four ſhillings for every one hundred acres of land which they ſhall grant to any planter; which quit rent to begin to be paid ten years from and after the reſpective dates of ſuch grants. Georgia to remain for ever an independent province; ſave only that the government of its militia ſhall

A. D. 1732 “ remain in the governor of South Carolina: but the government of the colony in other reſpects to be in the truſtees for twenty-one years, when it was to be veſted in the crown. Liberty of conſcience and freedom of worſhip allowed to all its inhabitants, Papiſts alone excepted. Lands to be granted to any perſon, not exceeding five hundred acres, on ſuch terms as the common council ſhould ſeem proper. No truſtee to hold lands nor office in Georgia. The grants of lands to be regiſtered here in the office of the auditor of the plantations.”

With reſpect to the progreſs made by thoſe truſtees, it may be truly ſaid, that they took all poſſible pains for executing the truſt: they erected two good towns, Savanna and Frederica, at the north and ſouth extremities of the province, beſide ſeveral villages and ſmall forts, and one more famous among the Indians, called Auguſta, with a ſmall garriſon for the protection of the Indian trade, two hundred and forty miles weſt from the ſea, up the river Savanna: a common nurſery-garden for white mulberry trees, for the production of ſilk. They procured foreign vine-dreſſers for improving the native vines, which in great abundance run up the talleſt trees and bear ſmall grapes; and they have alſo ſent thither many ſorts of vines from Europe; as alſo ſome Piedmonteſes, ſkilled in the winding of ſilk and tending the ſilk worms. For ſeveral years alſo, they and other lords and gentlemen, by ſubſcription, maintained a travelling profeſſor of botany, for collecting the moſt precious plants and ſeeds in various American climates, to be tranſplanted to Georgia. Yet, by having ſeveral idle drones, drunkards, and determined rogues, the proſperity of this colony was at firſt much retarded, as it was alſo by frequent alarms from the Spaniards; and, it muſt be confeſſed, in part alſo, by an ill-judged though well meant utopian ſcheme, for limiting the tenure of lands, and for the excluſion of negro ſlaves; both which miſtakes have ſince been rectified. By the planting of Georgia, Carolina has felt the benefit of being able to run out (as they term it) much land, which, till that new frontier barrier was eſtabliſhed, they had no inclination to do, in conſequence of which thoſe lands have been raiſed to five times their former value about Port Royal and toward the river Savanna. Georgia therefore could not fail to be of great ſervice on many accounts. The Britiſh navy might, in its bays and harbours, in caſe of a war, ſafely lie in wait for the Spaniſh galeons, or for the French from Miſſiſippi, in going to Europe through the dangerous gulph of Florida, whilſt the neighbouring Spaniſh port of St. Auguſtine is almoſt choaked up with ſand. The truſtees of Georgia erected a fort in the nation of the Upper Creeks, almoſt four hundred miles from the ſea, and not above forty miles from the neareſt French fort in Miſſiſippi, whereby all that tract of country was kept poſſeſſion of for us.

Georgia produces a great variety of excellent plants and drugs; orange trees in ſome parts of it; great plenty of horſes and black cattle already raiſed; and the Saltſburgers of Ebenezer long ſince raiſed more corn than they conſumed. There is plenty of wild fowl, and alſo fiſh on its coaſts; and it gradually increaſed in people and improvements more and more. But of the excellence of this new province, and of the adjoining one of Carolina, for raiſing the richeſt productions upon earth, we have ſaid ſo much in our introduction to this work, and of Colonel Purry's diſplay of the peculiar excellency of the latitude of thirty-three degrees, that we ſhall not need here to enlarge further on that ſubject, after obſerving a miſtake in the manner of granting parliamentary and other ſupplies for the planting of Georgia: for had the whole money granted at different times by Parliament, and alſo what was collected by private donations, been in one accumulated ſum, and laid out at once for one grand embarkation thither,

A. D. 1732 thither, with tools, arms, ſtores, plants, ſeeds, &c. it would have more completely and ſpeedily effected what the truſtees ſo earneſtly wiſhed for, than the method they were through neceſſity obliged to follow, of ſending many annual ſmall embarkations: for ſo large an embarkation and colony ſent at once would have been near and ready to adviſe and aſſiſt one another, and would have enabled them to proceed alſo more chearfully and with a greater certainty of ſucceſs.

The court of Spain was this year put upon a project for erecting an Eaſt India Company, to trade to the Philippine Iſles directly from Cadiz, by the Cape of Good Hope. And although it concerned all the other European nations trading to India, yet it more eſpecially concerned the Dutch to oppoſe it, as it is directly contrary to the latter part of the fifth article of the treaty of Munſter, in the year 1648, between Spain and them; and as the ſame article was lately made uſe of with ſucceſs againſt the Oſtend Company of the Spaniſh or Auſtrian Netherlands; it may be yet more ſtrongly oppoſed to the erection of this new company, viz. "Moreover, it is ſtipulated and agreed, that the Spaniards ſhall confine their navigation in "the Eaſt Indies in ſuch manner as it is at preſent poſſeſſed by them, without having it in "their power to extend the ſame any further: as alſo the inhabitants of the Netherlands ſhall "abſtain from frequenting thoſe places which belong to the Caſtilians in the Eaſt Indies." Now the Eaſt India trade, as then poſſeſſed by Spain, was practiſed ſolely from New Spain to the Philippines, and back to the port of Acapulco; but no Eaſt India trade at all from Spain by the way of the Cape of Good Hope. Wherefore the Dutch at this time moſt juſtly and zealouſly, and in the end effectually, oppoſed ſo palpable a contravention of that treaty.

Purſuant to an order of the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, directed to the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade and Plantations, in the latter end of the laſt or the beginning of this ſame year 1732, relating to the diſpute ſtill ſubſiſting between the ſugar colonies and the northern continental colonies of America; the ſaid board reported, with reſpect to any laws made, manufactures ſet up, or trade carried on there, detrimental to the trade, navigation, or manufactures of Great Britain, as follows, viz.

I. With reſpect to the laws, it is premiſed, "That many of the Britiſh colonies in America are immediately under the government of the crown; namely, Nova Scotia, New "Hampſhire, the Jerſies, New York, Virginia, the two Carolinas, Bermudas, the Bahama "Iſlands, Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the Leeward Iſlands.

"II. Others are veſted in the proprietors, as Pennſylvania, Maryland; and not long ſince "the Bahamas and the two Carolinas alſo.

"III. There are likewiſe three charter governments, viz. the Maſſachuſet's Bay, called "New England, the conſtitution whereof is of a mixed nature; where the power ſeems to "be divided between the King and the people, but in which the people have much the greateſt ſhare; for here the people do not only chuſe the aſſembly, but the aſſembly chuſes the "council alſo, and the governor depends on the aſſembly for his annual ſupport; which has "ſo frequently laid their governors under temptations of giving up the prerogative of the "crown, and the intereſt of Great Britain. The other two charter governments are Connecticut and Rhode Iſland; or rather they are corporations, where almoſt the whole power "of the crown is delegated to the people: for they chuſe their aſſembly, their council, and "their governor likewiſe annually; and hold little or no correſpondence with our office. "All theſe colonies, however, by their ſeveral conſtitutions, have power of making laws for "their better government and ſupport; provided they be not repugnant to the laws of Great

A. D. 1732. " Britain, nor detrimental to their mother country: and in the Maſſachuſet's Bay alſo, if " their laws are not repealed within three years after they have been preſented to the King, " they are not repealable by the crown after that time.

" IV. Maryland, Connecticut, and Rhode Iſland, not being under any obligation by their " reſpective conſtitutions to return authentic copies of their laws to the crown, for approbation or diſallowance, or to give any account of their proceedings; we are very little informed of what is doing in any of thoſe governments.

" V. All the governors of the colonies (which are under appointment) ought, within a " reaſonable time, to tranſmit home authentic copies of the ſeveral acts by them paſſed, to " go through a proper examination.

" VI. The following complaints have, however, been lately made to this board againſt " ſome plantation laws, viz.

" In the Maſſachuſet's Bay, an act was made for the encouragement of the making paper; " which law interferes with the profit made by the Britiſh merchant on foreign paper ſent " thither, being almoſt the only ſort of paper ſent thither.

" In New York there is a duty of two pounds laid on all negroes imported from Africa, " and of four pounds on all negroes imported from any other place.

" By the charter of Pennſylvania, the proprietor is obliged to offer the laws of that province to the crown, for approbation or diſallowance, within five years after they are paſſed; " and if, in ſix months after preſented to the King, he does not repeal them, it is not in his " power to repeal them afterward.

" VII. That in New England, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Iſland, Pennſylvania, " and in the county of Somerſet in Maryland, they had fallen into the manufacture of woollen cloth and linen cloth, for the uſe of their own families only.

" For, firſt, The product of thoſe colonies being chiefly ſtock," *i. e.* cattle, " and grain, " the eſtates of the inhabitants depended wholly on farming, which could not be managed " without a certain quantity of ſheep, ſo that their wool would be entirely loſt were not their " ſervants employed during winter in manufacturing it for the uſe of their families.

" Secondly, That flax and hemp being likewiſe eaſily raiſed, the inhabitants manufactured " them into a coarſe ſort of cloth bags, traces, and halters, for their horſes; which they " found did more ſervice than thoſe they had from any part of Europe. That, however, the " height of wages and high price of labour in general in America rendered it impracticable for " people there to manufacture their linen cloth at leſs than twenty per cent. more than the rate " in England, or woollen cloth at leſs than fifty per cent. dearer than that which is exported " from hence for ſale. It were to be wiſhed, that ſome expedient might be fallen upon to " divert their thoughts from undertakings of this nature: ſo much the rather, becauſe thoſe " manufactures, in proceſs of time, may be carried on in a greater degree, unleſs an early ſtop " be put to their progreſs, by employing them in naval ſtores. Wherefore we take leave to " renew our repeated propoſals, that reaſonable encouragement be given to the ſame. Moreover, we find that certain trades carried on, and manufactures ſet up there, are detrimental " to the trade, navigation, and manufactures of Great Britain. For the ſtate of thoſe plantations varying almoſt every year, more or leſs, in their trade and manufactures, as well as " in other particulars, we thought it neceſſary for his Majeſty's ſervice, and for the diſcharge " of our truſt, from time to time, to ſend certain general queries to the ſeveral governors in " America, that we might be the more exactly informed of the condition of the ſaid plantations, 1732 “tions, among which there were ſeveral that related to their trade and manufactures, to which we received the following returns, viz.

“I. New Hampſhire.

“The governor, in his anſwer, ſaid, That there were no ſettled manufactures in that province, and that their trade principally conſiſted in lumber and fiſh.

“II. Maſſachuſet's Bay, in New England.

“The governor informed us, That in ſome parts of this province, the inhabitants worked up their wool and flax into an ordinary coarſe cloth, for their own uſe; but did not export any. That the greateſt part of both woollen and linen cloathing worn in this province was imported from Great Britain, and ſometimes from Ireland. But, conſidering the exceſſive price of labour in New England, the merchants could afford what was imported cheaper than what was made in that country.

“That there were alſo a few hatters ſet up in the maritime towns: and that the greater part of the leather uſed in that country was manufactured amongſt themſelves. That there had been for many years ſome iron-works in that province, which had afforded the people iron for ſome of their neceſſary occaſions: but that the iron imported from Great Britain was eſteemed much the beſt, and wholly uſed by the ſhipping. And that the iron works of that province were not able to ſupply the twentieth part of what was neceſſary for the uſe of the country.

“III. New York.

“That they had no manufactures in that province that deſerved mentioning; their trade conſiſting chiefly in furs, whalebone, oil, pitch, tar, and proviſions.

“IV. New Jerſey.

“No manufactures here that deſerve mentioning: their trade being chiefly in proviſions exported to New York and Pennſylvania.

“V. Pennſylvania.

“Its chief trade lay in the exportation of proviſions and lumber; having no manufactures eſtabliſhed; their cloathing and utenſils for their houſes being all imported from Great Britain.

“VI. From New Hampſhire further advices, viz.

“That the woollen manufacture of this province is much leſs than formerly; the common lands on which the ſheep uſed to feed, being now divided into particular properties, and the people almoſt wholly cloathed with woollen from Great Britain. That the manufacturing of flax into linen (ſome coarſer, ſome finer) daily increaſed by the great reſort of people from Ireland thither, who are well ſkilled in that buſineſs. And that the chief trade of this province continued, as for many years paſt, in the exportation of naval ſtores, lumber, and fiſh

“VII. Later accounts from Maſſachuſet's Bay, in New England, viz.

“The aſſembly have voted a bounty of thirty ſhillings for every piece of duck or canvas to be made in this province.—Some other manufactures are carried on there; as the making of brown Hollands, for womens wear; which leſſens the importation of calicoes, and ſome other ſorts of Eaſt India goods.—They alſo make ſome ſmall quantities of cloth made of linen and cotton, for ordinary ſhirting and ſheeting.—By a paper mill, ſet up three years ago, they make to the value of two hundred pounds yearly.—There are alſo ſeveral forges

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" for making of bar iron, and ſome furnaces for caſt iron, or hollow wares, and one ſlitting mill:—and a manufacture of nails.

" The governor writes, concerning the woollen manufacture, that the country people who uſed formerly to make moſt of their cloathing out of their own wool, do not now make a third part of what they wear, but are moſtly cloathed with Britiſh manufactures.—The governor, (Belcher) by ſome of his letters of an older date, in anſwer to our annual queries, writes, that there are ſome few copper mines in this province, but ſo far diſtant from water carriage, and the ore ſo poor, that it is not worth the digging.—The Surveyor General of his Majeſty's woods writes, that they have in New England ſix furnaces and nineteen forges for making of iron:—and that, in this province, many ſhips are built for the French and Spaniards, in return for rum, melaſſes, wines, and ſilk, which they truck there, by connivance.—Great quantities of hats are made in New England, of which the Company of Hatters of London have likewiſe lately complained to us.—That great quantities of thoſe hats are exported to Spain, Portugal, and our Weſt India iſlands.—They alſo make all ſorts of iron-work for ſhipping.—That there are ſeveral ſtill-houſes and ſugar bakers eſtabliſhed in New England.

" VIII. Later advices from New York, viz.

" There are no manufactures here that can affect the manufactures of Great Britain.—There is yearly imported into New York a very large quantity of the woollen manufactures of this kingdom, for their cloathing, which," as the Preſident of the Council of this province writes, " they would be rendered incapable to pay for, and would be reduced to the neceſſity of making for themſelves, if they were prohibited from receiving from the foreign ſugar colonies, the money, rum, ſugar, melaſſes, cocoa, cotton wool, &c. which they at preſent take in return for proviſions, horſes, and lumber, the produce of that province and of New Jerſey; of which, he affirms, the Britiſh ſugar colonies do not take off above one-half. But the Company of Hatters of London have ſince informed us, that hats are manufactured in great quantities in this province.

" IX. New Jerſey.

" No particular returns from this province.

" X. From Pennſylvania later advices, viz.

" The deputy-governor writes, that he does not know of any trade carried on in that province that can be injurious to this kingdom: and that they do not export any woollen or linen manufactures: all that they make, which are of a coarſe ſort, being for their own uſe. We are further informed, that in this province are built many brigantines and ſmall ſloops, which they ſell to the Weſt Indies.

" XI. Rhode Iſland.

" The governor informs us, in anſwer to our queries, that there are iron mines there; but not a fourth part iron enough to ſerve their own uſe. But he takes no notice of any ſort of manufactures eſtabliſhed there.

" XII. Connecticut.

" No return from the governor of this province." (By its charter, as we have already ſeen, almoſt independent, or, to the ſhame of the nation, holding little or no correſpondence with the Board of Trade; ſince, by ſuch privileges of former charters granted by the crown, before the importance of thoſe countries was foreſeen or underſtood, they may in time do very great miſchief to their mother country, as alſo to the other Britiſh colonies in America, in

1732 many reſpects.) “ But” ſays this report of the Board of Trade, “ we find by ſome accounts, that the produce of this colony is timber, boards, all ſorts of Engliſh grain, hemp, flax, ſheep, black cattle, ſwine, horſes, goats, and tobacco.—That they export horſes and lumber to the Weſt Indies, and receive in return ſugar, ſalt, melaſſes, and rum.—We likewiſe find, that their manufactures are very inconſiderable; the people there being generally employed in tillage; ſome few in tanning, ſhoe-making, and other handicrafts; others in building, joiners, taylors, and ſmiths work, without which they could not ſubſiſt.”

No report is made concerning Carolina, the Bahama nor the Bermuda iſles: and as for Newfoundland, it is ſcarcely to be called a plantation, and Hudſon's Bay not at all.

“ The Sugar Colonie,, viz. Jamaica, Leeward Iſlands, and Barbadoes.

“ By the laſt returns which we have had from thoſe iſlands to our circular queries, we do not find that they have any other manufactures eſtabliſhed, beſide thoſe of ſugar, melaſſes, rum, and indigo, of their own produce. Theſe, with cotton, aloes, pimento, and ſome other productions of leſs note are their whole dependance; which are commodities no way interfering with the manufactures of this kingdom.—In the year 1724, Mr. Worſley, then Governor of Barbadoes, informed us, that of cotton they made hammocks, a few ſtockings, and nets for horſes.

“ From the foregoing ſtate,” continues the report, “ it is obſervable, that there are more trades carried on and manufactures ſet up in the provinces on the continent of America to the northward of Virginia, prejudicial to the trade and manufactures of Great Britain, particularly in New England, than in any other of the Britiſh colonies; which is not to be wondered at: for their ſoil, climate, and produce, being pretty near the ſame with ours, they have no ſtaple commodities of their own growth to exchange for our manufactures; which puts them under greater neceſſity, as well as under greater temptation of providing for themſelves at home: to which may be added, in the charter governments, the little dependance they have upon their mother-country, and conſequently the ſmall reſtraints they are under in any matters detrimental to her intereſts.

“ And therefore, we would humbly beg leave to report and ſubmit to the wiſdom of this Honourable Houſe, the ſubſtance of what we formerly propoſed in our report on the ſilk, linen, and woollen manufactures herein before recited; namely, whether it might not be expedient to give thoſe colonies proper encouragements for turning their induſtry to ſuch manufactures and products as might be of ſervice to Great Britain, and more particularly to the production of all kinds of naval ſtores.

“ *Whitehall, Feb.* 15, 1731-2. PAUL DOCKMINIQUE, &c.”

From the foregoing report, the great uſefulneſs of the inſtitution of the Board of Trade and Plantations may be evidently ſeen: notwithſtanding it too plainly appears alſo, that in anſwer to their annual queries ſent to our plantations, the governors of the northern colonies, as in the inſtances above of New York and Pennſylvania, may frequently impoſe on that Board, in favour of their reſpective governments; which, it is humbly apprehended, might be eaſily and effectually prevented by our Britiſh legiſlature.

We will not preſume to ſay how much further thoſe annual returns from the plantations may be, or have lately been improved; but they are, without doubt, in ſome reſpects, very defective. Neither ſhall we preſume to offer our peremptory opinion, though we have known that ſome have done it in private converſation, how far the Reports of the Board of Trade, concerning theſe annual returns from America, ſhould be made public; ſince of that the King, his Miniſtry, and Council, muſt be the proper judges.

A. D. 1732 We ſhall only obſerve further, that defective as the above report to Parliament is, it is undoubtedly to be preferred before the accounts publiſhed by any private perſons, and infinitely more ſo before any ſuch which are publiſhed by anonymous authors, who, for the moſt part, write for mere private intereſt, and oftentimes to miſlead the unwary.

“England,” and more particularly the city of London, “being now become a great mart for diamonds, and other precious ſtones and jewels,” according to the preamble of an act of Parliament of the ſixth of King George II. cap. vii. For the free Importation and Exportation of Diamonds, Pearls, Rubies, Emeralds, and all other Jewels and precious Stones “from whence moſt foreign countries are ſupplied, and great numbers of rough diamonds are ſent from abroad to be cut and poliſhed here, which is a great advantage to this nation; and there is great reaſon to believe if the importation thereof was encouraged and made eaſy, the ſaid trade would increaſe.—It was therefore enacted, that thoſe diamonds, might hereafter be imported, as before they might have been exported, free of all duty, in any ſhip or veſſel whatſoever; with this only proviſo, that this exemption ſhall not make void the duty granted to his Majeſty for the uſe of the Eaſt India Company, imported from places within their limits.”

The ſuburbs of London on every ſide ſtill increaſing, two acts of Parliament paſſed in this ſame ſixth year of King George II. for providing a maintenance for the miniſters of two new pariſhes therein, viz. for that of St. John in Southwark, cap. xi. and of St. Luke, in Old Street, in what is called the Lordſhip, part of the pariſh of St. Giles, Cripplegate, cap. xxi. Both which ſtatutes are undoubted proofs of our ſtill increaſing commerce.

1733 The warm diſpute between the Britiſh American ſugar colonies, and the Britiſh northern continental American colonies, which had laſted from the year 1731, concerning the trade of the latter with the French, Dutch, and Daniſh ſugar colonies; of whom they took off, in exchange for their proviſions, horſes, lumber, &c. conſiderable quantities of their ſugar, rum, and melaſſes; and of which, under the ſaid year 1731, we have fully treated,—was, in this year 1733, finally terminated, by a prudent temperament of an act of Parliament of this ſaid ſixth year of King George II. cap. xiii. For the better ſecuring and encouraging the trade of his Majeſty's Sugar Colonies in America. The preamble to which ſets forth, “That whereas the welfare and proſperity of your Majeſty's ſugar colonies in America are of the greateſt conſequence and importance to the trade, navigation, and ſtrength of this kingdom: and whereas the planters of the ſaid ſugar colonies have of late years fallen under ſuch great diſcouragements, that they are unable to improve or carry on the ſugar trade upon an equal footing with the foreign ſugar colonies, without ſome advantage and relief be given to them from Great Britain.—Be it therefore enacted,

“I. That the ſeveral after-mentioned rates and duties be granted, viz. upon all rum of the foreign ſugar colonies which ſhall be imported into any of the Britiſh plantations in America, nine pence ſterling for every gallon thereof—ſix pence for every gallon of melaſſes—and five ſhillings on every hundred weight of ſugars and paneles—to be paid down in ready money by the importers, before their landing of the ſame.

“II. That no ſugars, paneles, ſyrups, or melaſſes, nor any rum or ſpirits of America, except of the growth of his Majeſty's ſugar colonies, ſhall be imported into Ireland, but ſuch only as ſhall be laden and ſhipped in Great Britain in ſhips navigated according to the navigation laws; under forfeiture of ſhip and cargo.—With ſundry penalties on perſons aiding in any clandeſtine importation;—on perſons obſtructing cuſtom-houſe officers;—on cuſtom-

1733 " houſe officers conniving;—on ſhip-maſters ſuffering ſuch clandeſtine importation.—More-
" over, on all ſugars and paneles imported into Great Britain, on which the duty has been
" paid, if exported within one year after there ſhall be repaid all the ſaid duty;—and alſo two
" ſhillings per hundred weight on all refined ſugars exported from Great Britain, over and
" above the former allowances on exportation:—Provided, that nothing in this act ſhall be
" conſtrued to extend to reſtrain the importation of ſugars of the growth or produce of the do-
" minions of Spain or Portugal, from places from whence ſuch ſugars might lawfully before
" have been imported."

By an act of Parliament of this ſame ſixth year of King George the Second, cap. xxv. one million, out of the ſinking fund, was paid off the joint-ſtock of South Sea annuities; whereby ſix pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſix pence per cent. was paid to each proprietor, and wrote off from each reſpective account from and after the twenty-ninth of September 1733: the total joint-ſtock of South Sea annuities being fifteen millions ſix hundred and fifty-one pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and five pence.

King George the Second of Great Britain having, by proclamation, in the ſame year, prohibited the paſſing or circulation of the old and much worn out gold coins of the realm, of twenty-five ſhillings, and twenty-three ſhillings, commonly called Broad Pieces, and the halves and quarters thereof; he thereby alſo, for the eaſe of his people, directed his receivers of taxes, and alſo the officers of his mint, to receive them at four pounds one ſhilling per ounce troy, during one whole year to come: and that ſuch of them as ſhould be ſo brought to the Mint ſhould be coined into the modern current gold coins of the kingdom. And it being apprehended, that the advantage of ſo good an allowance at the Mint, and by the receivers of his revenues, as four pounds one ſhilling per ounce, might be a temptation for evil-minded perſons to counterfeit the ſaid old gold coin;—a ſtatute of this ſame ſixth of that King, cap. xxvi. To prevent the coining or counterfeiting any of the Gold Coins, commonly called Broad Pieces, made it high-treaſon ſo to do, or knowingly to utter ſuch forged or counterfeit old coins: and forty pounds reward was allowed to ſuch as ſhould diſcover the counterfeiters thereof.

At this time the Royal African Company of England was in a very bad condition. For although the Parliament had, every year ſince 1730, granted them ten thouſand pounds for the ſupporting of their forts and factories on the African coaſt, yet conſtantly continuing to be loſers by their trade for negroes to America, as they had been for many years paſt, they at length reſolved to confine themſelves to the purchaſing of ſlaves on that coaſt, and ſelling them again to private traders to America; to all whom the trade to Africa had been laid open by Parliament on granting the ſaid annual ten thouſand pounds; and to employ their ſervants in carrying on a trade far up into the inland countries of Africa, for gold, elephants teeth, bees-wax, drugs, dying woods, &c.

Yet even that more contracted trade would not anſwer, ſo as to make any dividend on ſo ſmall a capital ſtock as about two hundred thouſand pounds. Nay, ſo far from it, that they were not able to get clear of their debts and other incumbrances, even although they had greatly reduced the ſalaries and allowances to their officers and ſervants both at home and abroad, and had practiſed various other means of frugality. But it ſeems, that their ſaid ſervants in Africa had ſhamefully impoſed on their court of aſſiſtants, who, at this time, laid all theſe matters before their general court of proprietors; and as they had then nine ſhips of their own, they propoſed, in order to increaſe their aſſortments of goods at their factories, and for the

A. D. 1733 purpoſe of carrying on a large inland trade with their vaſt countries behind their forts and factories, to create bonds under the common ſeal, to the value of twenty thouſand pounds, bearing four per cent. intereſt; to which their general court agreed. Yet, notwithſtanding this, and that their court of aſſiſtants were as yet gentlemen of character and credit, their affairs grew continually retrograde; the private traders having always the advantage of them; as, indeed, will ever be the caſe in all branches of commerce where trade is freely laid open to all.

A propoſal being this year made by the court of Spain, to allow the South Sea Company two per cent. on the returns of the flota and galeons, as an equivalent for their annual ſhip, during the remainder of the company's term; that matter was debated both in their general courts and without doors, but the conſideration thereof was poſtponed. Yet we ſhall here briefly ſtate what was then ſaid in favour of that propoſal, viz.

I. It was admitted by all ſides, that the Aſſiento contract for the ſupplying Spaniſh America with negroes, was not only a greatly loſing trade to this company, but was well known to have been ſo to all former Aſſientiſts.

II. The ſaid annual ſhip was therefore granted by Spain in compenſation for that loſs: which, however, excepting the very laſt voyage, which in the year 1731 returned from Porto Bello, had likewiſe proved a loſing trade.

The bad ſucceſs of this trade has been uſually attributed to two principal cauſes, viz.

Firſt, To the frequent repriſals or ſeizures made by Spain on the company's effects in America; which was likely ever to be the caſe, whilſt the company had factors and conſiderable effects in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies; being a circumſtance that afforded Spain an opportunity to inſult us, even on very inſignificant occaſions. And,

Secondly, To the miſmanagement of the company's factors and agents in America, who got large eſtates in a very few years, and ſome of them in little more than one year, whilſt the company continued to be ſuch great loſers.

Thirdly, There were moreover frequent occaſions taken by the court of Spain to obſtruct the going out, and alſo the return of the ſaid annual ſhip in due ſeaſon, on account of her menſuration at home, or on ſome other frivolous pretext in America; in order thereby to give their flotas and flotillas the advantage.

It was therefore argued, by ſuch as were for the company's quitting that trade entirely, and for accepting of an equivalent, after the following manner, viz.

1. That the not ſending ſuch a ſhip directly to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies will not in the leaſt diminiſh the conſumption of Britiſh commodities in that part of the world, as the ſame ſorts, and, as they alleged, greater quantities of Engliſh goods will be ſent thither, (as before this Aſſiento trade was granted, by the way of Cadiz, and from thence by their flotas and galeons to the Weſt Indies, or elſe ſmuggled to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies by the way of Jamaica and the Leeward Iſlands.

2. The returns on which the propoſed two per cent. to the company was to ariſe, by the flota and galeons, and on the Spaniſh regiſter ſhips, returning from thoſe parts whither the company has a right to ſend their annual ſhip, were computed to amount to at leaſt fifteen million of pieces of eight; and two per cent thereon would be three hundred thouſand dollars or pieces of eight, or about ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling.

1733 On the other ſide of the queſtion, it was admitted, that the company's adventure by their annual ſhip amounted to about two hundred thouſand pounds ſterling: upon which there might be an advance of ſeventy-five pounds per cent. or, in all, three hundred and fifty thouſand pounds.

	£.		£.
Coſt of their -	200,000	annual adventure - - -	350,000
	25,000	ſhips' ſtores, ſeamens' wages, &c.	
	10,000	maintenance of ſervants, and preſents abroad.	
	20,000	commiſſion and privilege to ſupercargoes, &c.	
	16,000	two years intereſt on two hundred thouſand pounds diſburſed for the cargo.	
	5,000	extraordinary charges of management at home on this account.	
£.	276,000	total coſt to be deducted - -	276,000
		Profit by the annual ſhip £.	74,000

N. B. This calculation is made excluſive of inſurance, and of the riſque of bad debts; and alſo on a ſuppoſition of an uninterrupted enjoyment of the trade, without any ſeizures or detentions of the ſhips. Nothing, however, was determined concerning this trade, which remained in ſuſpence until, as will be ſeen, it was entirely given up by treaty.

Although the preceding Michaelmas groſs ſale of the Britiſh Eaſt India Company's merchandize, including ſeventy thouſand pounds brought home in gold for the general account, amounted to above one million three hundred thouſand pounds, yet that company having ſo lately advanced two hundred thouſand pounds to the public for the prolonging of their privileges, and at the ſame time ſuffered an abatement of one per cent. from the intereſt of their whole capital of three million two hundred thouſand pounds, viz. from five to four per cent. —their court of directors, on mature conſideration, did, this year, propoſe to reduce their dividend from eight to ſix per cent. Nevertheleſs, ſuch, at this time, was the then unaccountable humour of a general court, that although their directors re-acquainted them, of their remaining firm in their former opinion, that not above three per cent. could be prudently divided for the then current half year, the ballot determined it, by above two to one, for three and a half per cent. even although they were then likewiſe told, that the ſecrecy proper to be obſerved by great trading ſocieties can very ſeldom, if ever, admit of particular calculations to be laid before ſuch popular aſſemblies as general courts; and although they well knew that their directors were at leaſt as much intereſted as moſt other proprietors in keeping up the dividends on their ſtock.

It is by no means foreign to our ſubject to obſerve, that in this ſame year 1733, a new and moſt promiſing corporation was erected, for promoting Engliſh Proteſtant working ſchools in Ireland. The author of this work having at this time been in ſome degree uſeful in correſponding with Dr. Maule, then Biſhop of Dromore, for promoting the charter thereof, received of that Biſhop the following well vouched account of the number of people, both Proteſtants and Papiſts, in all Ireland, viz. "That, by the Biſhop's books and other authentic "vouchers, there were at leaſt two millions of people in all Ireland, of which there are very "near ſix hundred thouſand proteſtants, and ſomewhat above one million four hundred thouſand

A. D. 1733 “ ſand Papiſts, or near two one-half Papiſts to one Proteſtant.”—So far goes the good Biſhop's account. About the ſame time there came out a printed liſt of the total of both religions in every county in Ireland, but, for brevity's ſake, we ſhall content ourſelves with the four great diviſions, called provinces, of Ireland, viz.

	Proteſtant Families.		*Popiſh Families.*
I. In Ulſter - -	62,620	- - -	38,459
Leinſter - -	25,238	- - -	92,424
Munſter - -	13,337	- - -	106,407
Connaught - -	4,299	- - -	44,133
Total, Proteſtant Families	105,494	Popiſh Families	281,423

Which, at five to each family in the country, and ten for Dublin, and ſeven for Cork city, makes two million fifteen thouſand two hundred and twenty-nine ſouls, very nearly correſponding with Biſhop Maule's account.

The printed account makes the Proteſtant families of Dublin to be -	8,823
———————— Popiſh ones to be - -	4,119
	12,942
Which at ten to each family, makes the people of Dublin amount to -	129,420

II. Proteſtant families in the city of Cork - - -	2,569
Popiſh families - - - - -	5,398
Total -	7,967
Which at ſeven to each family, makes the people of Cork city amount to	55,769

So noble a part of the Britiſh Empire, as this iſland, is well worth the cheriſhing, as far as can be done without evident prejudice to Great Britain. King William the Third, on his firſt landing on it, turning to old Marſhal Schomberg, truly ſaid, “ This iſland is well worth “ fighting for.”

The King of Denmark's zeal for the proſperity of his ſubjects commerce, and more eſpecially for that of his Eaſt India Company, prompted him this year to erect an Inſurance Company at Copenhagen, in order to ſave for the future their ſending to Amſterdam for inſurances on their ſhips and merchandize; the King himſelf firſt ſubſcribing a conſiderable ſum into this new company; which was followed by the ſubſcriptions of the courtiers, merchants, and others.

The proprietors of the South Sea Company's capital ſtock becoming uneaſy, on account of their late loſſes by their Aſſiento and Greenland trades; their general court petitioned Parliament, to be enabled to divide their preſent capital ſtock of fourteen million ſix hundred and fifty-one thouſand one hundred and three pounds eight ſhillings and one penny, into three-fourth parts new South Sea annuity ſtock, and the remaining fourth-part to be the ſole capital

1733 or trading corporation ſtock. Their fear of embarking into any new or hazardous ſchemes of commerce, &c. being the ground hereof; ſo ſmall a capital being leſs able to bear any ſuch hazards. It was therefore, in this ſixth year of King George II. enacted, cap. xxviii. "That "the ſaid capital ſtock be divided, from and after Midſummer 1733, into three-fourths annu-"ity ſtock, at four per cent. to be called, The new Joint-ſtock of South Sea Annuities, "amounting, (by the computation of this act) to ten million nine hundred and eighty-eight "thouſand three hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds eleven ſhillings and three farthings, and "the remander," (being three million ſix hundred and ſixty-two thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four pounds eight ſhillings and ſix pence) "to be the ſole capital or trading ſtock of "the company, in its corporate capacity;") which laſt named capital is ſomewhat more than an exact fourth-part of the above undivided capital ſtock, becauſe, in writing off three-fourth parts from each proprietor's account, the fractional part, or the odd penny, was left with the ſaid remaining fourth part or capital ſtock; wherefore the exact total of the new joint-ſtock was really but the ſum of ten million nine hundred and eighty-eight thouſand three hundred and eighteen pounds nineteen ſhillings and ſeven pence) "the ſaid new joint-ſtock of South "Sea annuities to be quite exempted from all concern with the company's debts, bonds, trade, "&c. and to be an entire unincumbered annuity ſtock, redeemable by Parliament, as by for-"mer ſtatutes: the annuity to be payable at Chriſtmas and Midſummer yearly.

"Whereas the Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants of the Corporation of the Trinity-houſe "of Deptford-Strond, in the county of Kent, have, by grants from the crown, the laſtage "and ballaſtage, and the ſole right of ſupplying all ſhips with ballaſt, that ſail, paſs, and re-"paſs in the river of Thames, between London Bridge and the main ſea, at the rates and "prices accuſtomed; and are alſo entitled to, and have a right to dig, raiſe, and take up the "gravel, ſand, and ſoil of the ſaid river Thames, for the ballaſting ſuch ſhips and veſſels as "aforeſaid: and whereas the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, have for ſeveral years laſt "paſt conſtantly employed ſixty ballaſt lighters and one hundred and twenty men, to dig and "raiſe ballaſt from the ſhelves and ſand banks of the ſaid river, and to carry and convey ſuch "ballaſt to ſhips and veſſels having occaſion for the ſame; and thereby the channel of the "ſaid river hath been conſiderably deepened, and ſeveral obſtructions to the navigation "therein removed."—So ſets forth the preamble to an act of the Britiſh Parliament, in this ſixth year of King George II. cap. xxix. For the better Regulation of Laſtage and Ballaſtage in the River Thames. Wherefore this act ſettles the prices to be hereafter paid to that corporation for ballaſt, and to their ballaſt-men; alſo the burden of ballaſt-lighters, &c. in many reſpects too tedious, as well as altogether unneceſſary to be herein ſpecified; the above preamble being ſufficient to explain to the reader the nature, &c. of this part of the buſineſs of the ballaſt-office of the Trinity-houſe corporation.

From the Britiſh American colony of Carolina, we were, in this ſame year 1733, advertiſed, that the rice, exported from thence to Spain and Portugal, was become ſo cheap in thoſe two countries as to have put almoſt an entire ſtop to the importation of that commodity from Venice and other parts of Italy; ſo far as to give ground to hope, that Carolina might ſoon engroſs all the trade of Europe for that fine grain. That beſide rice, there was exported from Charleſtown in South Carolina, only within three months of this ſame year. ſix thouſand and ſeventy-three barrels of pitch, one thouſand nine hundred and eighty-four barrels of tar, and four hundred and twenty-four barrels of turpentine. And in this whole year, thirty-ſix thouſand five hundred and eighty-four barrels of rice, two thouſand eight hundred and two bar-

rels

A. D. 1733 rels of pitch, eight hundred and forty-eight ditto of turpentine, ſixty tons of lignum vitæ, twenty tons of Braſiletto wood, twenty-ſeven tons of ſaſſafras, eight cheſts of ſkins; beſide lumber, pork, beef, peas, and Indian corn. This colony is continually increaſing, by the encouragement they give to new comers, both Britiſh and foreigners.

It was at this time computed, that within the compaſs of one year paſt, no leſs than eight hundred thouſand quarters of corn had been exported from Great Britain to France, Portugal, Spain, and Italy; for which was paid by thoſe nations, including the freight of our own ſhips, at leaſt one million ſterling; being all clear profit to the kingdom. How much, therefore, is the landed intereſt concerned in this particular reſpect, as well as in every other regard, for the advancement of the foreign commerce of Great Britain!

Immediately before the South Sea Company's general court had finally determined to lay aſide their Greenland whale-fiſhery, their directors had applied to the government, for obtaining a bounty, to be granted by Parliament, on the ſaid fiſhery; and although it could not then be entirely brought about, yet, in the following year 1733, a bounty was granted by an act of Parliament, in the ſixth year of King George the Second, cap. xxxiii. For the further Encouragement of the Whale Fiſhery, carried on by his Majeſty's Britiſh Subjects, "of twenty "ſhillings per ton on all ſhips fitted out in Great Britain, of two hundred tons and upwards, "for the whale-fiſhery, and navigated according to law." Of which new bounty two ſhips ſent out this year by private adventurers, enjoyed the benefit; although, nevertheleſs, not very much to the emolument of thoſe adventurers.

Many reaſons have been aſſigned for Britiſh ſubjects not hitherto ſucceeding in this fiſhery, and for the greater ſucceſs of the Dutch therein, viz.

I. In general, the greater frugality of the Hollanders, whereby, notwithſtanding this our new bounty, they are enabled to underſell us in their oil and whale-bone.

II. From the manner in which the Dutch are ſaid to carry on this and much of their other fiſheries. For the ſhip-builder, the cooper, the ſail-maker, the rope-maker, the baker, brewer, diſtiller, and other tradeſmen employed in fitting out their ſaid ſhips, frequently or moſtly go each a ſhare in thoſe voyages: ſo that, ſhould it prove a fortunate fiſhing ſeaſon, they are ſure to be doubly gainers. And, even if it ſhould prove a bad fiſhery, they probably loſe but little more than they had gained by their ſupplying the out-ſet of ſuch year in their reſpective callings; whereby they are the better enabled to go on in that trade than mere merchants can do without theſe advantages. De Witt, in his Intereſt of Holland, chap. xvi. ſays, "It is wor-"thy of obſervation, that the Dutch Greenland Company made formerly little profit by it, "becauſe of the great charge of ſetting out their ſhips.. whereas now, that every one equips "their ſhips at the cheapeſt rate, follow their fiſhery diligently, and manage all carefully, the "train oil and whale-fins are employed for ſo many uſes in ſeveral countries, that they can "ſell them with ſuch convenience, that there are now fifteen ſhips for one that formerly "ſailed from Holland on that fiſhery."

III. By the re-exportation of a great part of the produce of ſuch fiſhery, they are further enabled to make up the loſs of any bad year's fiſhery: whereas we have never, as yet, carried on a whale-fiſhery conſiderable enough to enable us to export any quantity of oil and whale-fins, nor indeed enough to ſupply ourſelves at home. And we may add,

IV. The ancient ſtanding reaſon of the great lowneſs of the intereſt of money in Holland, till very lately.

1733 There lies now before the author, an account of the Hollanders whale-fiſhing for forty-ſix years, ending in the year 1721, viz. In that ſpace they had therein employed five thouſand eight hundred and eighty-ſix ſhips, and caught thirty-two thouſand nine hundred and ſeven whales; each of which whales, one with another, being uſually valued at five hundred pounds, makes the value of the whole amount to above ſixteen millions ſterling, gained out of the ſea, moſtly by the labour of the people; the wear and tear of the ſhipping, the caſks and the proviſions excepted; which laſt three articles are alſo a vaſt benefit to the public, by the exciſe, &c. paid thereon, as well as to numberleſs individuals employed therein.

At the very cloſe of this ſame year 1733, the South Sea Company's great annual ſhip, the Royal Caroline, arrived from Vera Cruz, after being long detained there, being the laſt annual ſhip which that company is ever like to ſee from the Spaniſh Weſt Indies; her cargo conſiſted of ſilver, in dollars or pieces of eight, cochineal, and indigo: yet becauſe of the violent detention, this was ſaid to be a loſing voyage for the company.

By the laſt quarter's bill of mortality of this year for the city of Dublin, it appears that five hundred and ninety-one died in that quarter, being, at that rate, two thouſand three hundred and ſixty-four for the whole year; which laſt number being multiplied by thirty, as it is generally computed that one out of thirty dies yearly in great and populous cities, gives the whole number of people of that city, being ſeventy thouſand nine hundred and twenty ſouls: but, if multiplied by thirty-three, according to others, it will then give ſeventy-eight thouſand and twelve for the number of inhabitants of that city. This ſubject is very curious, and, in many reſpects, of good uſe in politico-commercial ſpeculations; but when cities become large and populous, the number of their inhabitants is almoſt always exaggerated. This method, however, of computing muſt neceſſarily be the moſt certain of any, provided a medium can be obtained of a determined number of years, at certain diſtances from each other. We muſt, however, conclude, that by all other accounts, there muſt be ſome miſtake in reckoning the bill of mortality of that city, and that the account of that city and people, under the New Society in Dublin for promoting Engliſh Proteſtant Schools in Ireland, approaches nearer to the truth, under this ſame year.

1734 Purſuant to an order of the Britiſh Houſe of Peers, in the year 1734, we have the repreſentation of the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade and Plantations, exhibiting an exact and curious ſtate of the trade, people, and ſtrength of our iſland plantations in the Weſt Indies, viz.

I. "Jamaica, though having nineteen pariſhes, had but ſeven thouſand ſix hundred and forty-four white people on it; even although its militia conſiſted of three thouſand men, horſe and foot, diſperſed all over the inhabited part of that iſland. They had ſix forts; and of late have had no fewer than eight independent companies of the King's forces, each conſiſting of one hundred men.

☞ The dimunition of the white people of Jamaica was owing to the great decay of their private or illicit trade to the Spaniſh main; that trade having drawn thither many white people, who were wont to get rich in a few years, and then return to their mother country, and the Spaniſh money they got in Jamaica did at length centre in England. From Jamaica our ſaid people privately carried all ſorts of our manufactures, &c. to New Spain, which, it is well known, can only be legally carried thither by the flota and flotilla from Old Spain: they alſo carried thither great numbers of negroes.

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“ Our exports to Jamaica, at a medium of four years, from Chriſtmas 1728, to Chriſtmas 1732, was to the value of one hundred and forty-ſeven thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy-five pounds two ſhillings and three-pence farthing; and our imports were five hundred and thirty-nine thouſand four hundred and ninety-nine pounds eighteen ſhillings and three-pence halfpenny. Annual exceſs of our imports from Jamaica is three hundred and ninety-one thouſand eight hundred and twenty-four pounds fifteen ſhillings and eleven-pence three-farthings.

II. “ Barbadoes had eighteen thouſand two hundred and ninety-five white people; its militia conſiſted of one troop and two regiments of horſe, and of ſeven regiments of foot; in all, four thouſand eight hundred and twelve men. In which iſle are no fewer than twenty-one forts and twenty-ſix batteries, mounted with four hundred and ſixty-three cannon.”

All our ſugar iſlands together are thought annually to produce eighty-five thouſand hogſheads of ſugar, each hogſhead containing twelve hundred weight, or in all, one million two hundred thouſand hundred-weight. Of which Great Britain was thought to conſume annually ſeventy thouſand hogſheads, or ninety-four millions and eighty thouſand pounds of ſugar: which for ten millions of people, if ſo many there be in Britain, comes to nine pounds and a half of ſugar to each perſon; or if but eight millions of people, then about eleven pounds and a half of ſugar to each perſon; and as there are undoubtedly about two millions and upwards of people in Ireland, we may omit them in this computation, as there may probably be near that number in all the Britiſh dominions who uſe little or no ſugar at all.

It is computed, that three hundred ſail of ſhipping go annually from Great Britain to the Sugar Iſlands, beſide thoſe which go thither from our American colonies, and that about four thouſand five hundred ſeamen are employed in navigating them; and that there is annually exported thither to the value of two hundred and forty thouſand pounds in Britiſh manufactures.

III. “ In all the Britiſh Leeward Iſlands, viz. St. Chriſtopher's, Antigua, Nevis, and Montſerrat, with all their dependencies, Barbuda, Anguilla, Spaniſh Town, Tortola, and the reſt of the Virgin Iſles, there are ten thouſand two hundred and ſixty-two white people, and their militia conſiſts of three thouſand two hundred and eighty-four men.” But, by “ an account of thoſe Leeward Iſlands, in the year 1736, their ſtrength was as follows, viz.

In Antigua, —	1,500	men, two forts and ſeven batteries.
— St. Chriſtopher's, —	1,340	men, three forts and ſix batteries.
— Montſerrat, —	360	men, one fort and one battery.
— Nevis, — —	300	men, one fort and one battery.
In all,	3,500	men.
And in Anguilla, —	80	men.
—— Spaniſh Town, —	72	men.
—— Tortola, —	120	men.
	3,772	white men in all the Leeward Iſlands.

IV “ The iſlands called the Bahamas are the next, in thoſe ſeas, of importance to Great Britain; where Providence is the only iſland, as yet, of any conſideration to us, or that is peopled in any degree: and here they have five hundred white people, out of which they have

1734 " formed ſix companies of militia, beſide one independent company in his Majeſty's pay.—
" On this iſland they have two forts, ſince better rebuilt.

V. " In the Bermudas, there were a few years ſince five thouſand white people, of which
" there are a thouſand white men, beſide officers, for their militia. They have one fort and
" ſix batteries."

Nothing is ſaid of Newfoundland in the report of that board; which indeed is properly no colony, it having ſcarcely any ſoil capable of cultivation: and the forts and people there are chiefly, if not ſolely, for the protection and accommodation of the ſhips of our important cod-fiſhery on the adjoining ſhoals, called the Banks of Newfoundland, and alſo in its bays and harbours. Thoſe garriſons are alſo requiſite for preventing any other European nation from getting poſſeſſion of that iſland, which poſſeſſion would render our fiſhery there extremely precarious, on a rupture with any ſuch nation, as it would alſo our communication with our northern continental colonies. Newfoundland, therefore, on theſe accounts, is of very great importance to us.

In the former part of this year, his Majeſty of Great Britain's eldeſt daughter Anne, ſtiled the Princeſs Royal, was married to William Prince of Orange, her portion being eighty thouſand pounds ſterling.

His Britannic Majeſty's other two daughters, ſince married, one to the preſent King of Denmark, and the other to the preſent Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, had each forty thouſand pounds for their portions.

A Committee of Inſpection into the ſtate of the South Sea Company's commerce to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, having been at this time appointed by their general court out of the ſtock-holders, it appeared, by the accounts which that committee publiſhed, that the entire balance of that trade from the beginning, or of their ten years American or Aſſiento trade, amounted to no more than thirty-two thouſand two hundred and ſixty pounds eighteen ſhillings profit to the company. This was, by the proprietors of the ſtock, thought (and indeed was) a very inconſiderable profit, being but three thouſand two hundred and twenty-ſix pounds for each year of that trade. This it was which made the ſtockholders very earneſt to accept of the equivalent formerly propoſed by the court of Spain: but thoſe proprietors or ſtockholders conſidered only their own private advantage by that ſuppoſed equivalent. For as the King and his Miniſters muſt have been conſulted, before ſuch equivalent could be permitted to be accepted by the company, there was a more important and extenſive conſideration to be duly weighed, viz. whether by the illicit and very profitable trade carried on by that company's ſupercargoes, factors, captains, and other ſervants, employed by them in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, and alſo under their wings, from Jamaica, &c. the nation was not a greater gainer, upon the whole, than they could be by the propoſed equivalent, and the carrying back the trade to the channel of Cadiz, where, without doubt, our merchants had alſo a great intereſt in that trade. We muſt, however, now again leave this diſpute for future conſideration, in its proper place.

Many great inconveniencies to commerce, and frequent frauds, having been long ſeen to be practiſed, by ſtock jobbing, in the city of London; an act of Parliament paſſed in this ſeventh year of King George the Second, cap. viii. To prevent the infamous Practice of Stock-jobbing. For the prevention of bargains for ſtocks bought or ſold, for a future time, by perſons on one hand, not poſſeſſed of ſuch ſtock; and, on the other, by many not being in circumſtances or ability to pay for ſuch ſtock; for Puts alſo and Refuſals of ſtocks, &c.

A. D. 1734 (terms which we have already explained, under the year 1695) whereby very many unwary perſons and their innocent families have been undone, were hereby prohibited.

It was there enacted, " That all contracts and agreements whatſoever, which ſhall be made " or entered into, upon which any premium ſhall be given or paid for liberty to put upon, " or to deliver, receive, accept, or refuſe any public or joint ſtock, or other public ſecurities " whatſoever, or any part or ſhare therein; and alſo all wagers, and contracts in the nature of " wagers or of Puts and Refuſals, relating to the preſent or future price of any ſuch ſtocks, " ſhall be null and void to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever. And all premiums given or " received upon ſuch bargains, ſhall be reſtored and repaid to the perſons who ſhall have ſo " paid them, and may be recovered by an action, commenced within ſix months, with double " coſts; the firſt receivers of ſuch premium to be obliged to anſwer upon oath.

" A penalty of five hundred pounds is hereby laid on all perſons making ſuch time-bargains " or contracts, Puts and Refuſals; and all and every broker or brokers, agents and ſcriveners, " tranſacting or writing any ſuch contract, ſhall likewiſe forfeit the ſame ſum of five hundred " pounds, moiety to the King, moiety to the ſuer for the ſame. And for preventing the " evil practice of compounding or making up differences for bargains on ſtocks ſo ſold: no " money ſhall be voluntarily given or received on that account, or for not performing of any " ſuch contract: but all and every ſuch contract ſhall be ſpecifically performed.—And the " ſtock or ſecurity thereby agreed to be aſſigned and transferred, ſhall be actually ſo done, " and the whole money ſhall be paid for the ſame, under the forfeiture of one hundred pounds " for every ſuch compounding, &c. as aforeſaid. Stock ſold, and not paid for at the time " prefixed, may be lawfully ſold again to any other perſons, and the buyer ſhall make good " any damage ſuſtained. Stock bought, and not transferred at the due time, by the ſeller, " the buyer may purchaſe other ſtock and recover his damage. And whereas it is frequently " and miſchievouſly practiſed, for perſons to ſell ſtocks of which they are not poſſeſſed,—it " was hereby enacted, That, for all contracts and agreements hereafter to be made either for " the ſelling or buying of ſuch ſtocks, whereof the perſons contracting ſhall not be poſſeſſed " at the time of ſuch bargain, there ſhall be five hundred pounds penalty; as alſo one hundred pounds penalty on the broker or agent for procuring of ſuch bargain, who ſhall hereafter keep a book or regiſter to be called the broker's book, wherein all ſuch bargains ſhall " be regiſtered; and by his neglecting ſo to do, he ſhall incur the penalty of fifty pounds. " Nothing herein, however, ſhall affect contracts for any ſtocks made with the privity of the " Accountant-general of the Court of Chancery. Nor to prevent any perſon from lending " money on any public joint ſtock or other public ſecurities, on the re-delivering thereof, on " re-payment of the money lent." Notwithſtanding which ſtrict law, ſuch illegal bargains continue ſtill to be made and carried on, to the undoing of many.

There having been a Britiſh ſtatute made in the ſecond year of King George the Second, cap. xxii. to make it felony to ſteal bonds, notes, or other ſecurities for payment of money, " it was now, in this ſeventh year of that King, cap. xxii. further enacted, That perſons " convicted of forging, altering, or counterfeiting the acceptance of any bill of exchange, or " the number or principal ſum of any accountable receipt for any note, bill, or other ſecurity " for payment of money or delivery of goods, ſhall ſuffer death as a felon."

On the twenty-eighth of March 1734, a general court of the South Sea Company, upon the repeated repreſentation of Sir Thomas Geraldino, the King of Spain's agent at London, for the affairs of the Aſſiento trade of that company, concerning the bad management of their factors, 1734 factors, unanimouſly agreed to empower their court of directors to preſent an humble addreſs to his Majeſty, deſiring his royal conſent to diſpoſe of the trade and tonnage of the company's annual ſhip.

In Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, for the month of September of this year, we find the following view of all the coinage of both gold and ſilver in the Tower of London, ſince the acceſſion of his Majeſty King George the Second to the throne, viz.

In gold, forty-three thouſand nine hundred and forty pounds weight, which at forty-four pounds ten ſhillings per pound, makes in tale one million nine hundred and fifty-five thouſand three hundred and thirty pounds. And in ſilver only eight thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-two pounds weight, which at three pounds two ſhillings per pound weight, makes in tale twenty-ſeven thouſand one hundred pounds four ſhillings. "A very ſmall ſum," ſays our author, "in proportion to that coined in gold; and ſeems to be an evident proof that the "current value of the two metals is not juſtly proportioned in this kingdom; nor is indeed "in any other part of Europe; as appears by the great profit that is to be got by carrying ſilver to the Eaſt Indies, and ſelling it for gold."

With this author's leave, what he remarks, concerning the carrying ſilver to the Eaſt Indies, would happen although the proportion between gold and ſilver, in all parts of Europe, were ever ſo juſtly aſcertained; ſilver in India being a mere commodity or merchandize, and highly prized there merely as ſuch.

Great complaints came over from Nova Scotia at this time; and particularly from the Britiſh ſettlement at Canſo, a place of great conſequence to our fiſhing trade in thoſe parts; that although our late King had ſent thither four companies of ſoldiers, yet there had been no money laid out in fortifying of that place: that they were particularly apprehenſive of the French encroachments in their neighbourhood, who always are eſpecially careful of their own fortifications; and that by our ſhameful negligence of Nova Scotia, our fiſhery there was almoſt dwindled to nothing. Notwithſtanding which, our miniſters ſeemed quite to diſregard, or rather to be quite ignorant of the vaſt importance of that province.

The Dutch Eaſt India Company had, in this year 1734, twenty-two ſhips from the Eaſt Indies, whoſe cargoes were ſo vaſt as well to merit ſo ſmall a place in this commercial hiſtory, viz.

Spiceries	6,331,027	pounds weight.
Sugar	2,406,428	
Saltpetre	1,807,210	
Coffee	3,997,759	
Dying and other drugs	91,949	cheſts.
Ditto	1,549,463	pounds weight.
Tea	415,970	cheſts.
Ditto	369,577	pounds weight.
Raw Silk	62,015	
Silk ſtuffs	21,205	pieces.
Callicoes	209,748	
Indigo	14,483	pounds weight.
Tin	354,000	
Copper	462,500	
Candied ginger	50,486	

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China ware	525,223	pieces.
Yarn	92,441	pounds weight.
Candied nutmegs	8,000	pſs.
Cubebs	10,000	pounds weight.
Curcuma of Java	16,250	
Mother of pearl	800	
Pearls	10	
Cowries	255,357	
Rough diamonds	2	pſs.
Rings	3	pſs.
Canes	1,500	pſs.
Wool	277	pounds weight.

Such alterations may happen to this commerce, in future times, as may poſſibly make this account hereafter ſeem incredible.

The trade to the coaſt of Guinea has ſeldom or never been carried on by excluſive companies, in any part of Europe, to national advantage: private traders, under proper regulations, ſeeming moſt proper for preſerving and extending that, as well as moſt other branches of foreign commerce. Of this the States General of the United Netherlands were ſo ſenſible, that they, in this year 1734, laid their trade, to a diſtrict of ſixty leagues of the weſt coaſt of Africa, open to all their ſubjects, which had till now been confined to their Weſt India Company; and was ſo to remain for twenty years to come, though under certain regulations, mentioned in their ſaid placart.

The number of ſhips arriving, during the year 1734, at Amſterdam, was ſeventeen hundred and twenty-one, viz.

From Archangel,	33	ſhips.
Peterſburg,	22	
Riga,	70	
Narva,	187	
Wyburg,	20	
Koningſberg,	36	
Dantzic,	62	
Stockholm,	26	
Norway,	163	
Greenland,	77	
Davis's Streights,	69	
London,	51	
Sunderland,	62	
Bourdeaux,	88	
Rouen,	33	
Bayonne,	18	
Nantes,	22	
Rochelle,	12	
Cadiz,	53	
Bilboa,	20	
Leghorn,	45	

1734	Liſbon,	32 ſhips.
	Surinam,	29
	Eaſt India,	14

Here is a miſtake of almoſt four hundred ſhips too few, in ſpecifying the particulars, in Boyer's Political State for the month of February 1735, probably to be ſupplied by their own coaſters. Imperfect as this liſt is, we may, however, learn from it the immenſe commerce of Amſterdam with the northern crowns; and yet moſt of it is carried on by means of the fiſh caught on the Britiſh coaſts. Hereafter, ſuch an account as this may be uſeful for comparing the annual increaſe or decreaſe of the general commerce of the Seven United Provinces, and principally that of the famous city of Amſterdam.

The number of ſhips that entered the port of Cadiz, in the ſaid year 1734, were, viz.

	Ships.
Engliſh,	596
French,	228
Hollanders,	147
Swediſh,	13
Daniſh,	14
Portugueſe,	2
Genoeſe,	2
Lubeckers,	1
Hamburger,	1
In all,	1,004

In the ſame year 1734, there arrived at Cadiz the treaſure and effects of the Flota, viz. eleven millions eleven thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-nine dollars or pieces of eight, in ſpecie, for the commerce, and one million four hundred ſixty-four thouſand five hundred and eighty-two for the King: in all, twelve millions four hundred and ſeventy-ſix thouſand three hundred and thirty-one, or about three and a half millions ſterling; beſide almoſt five millions of dollars by the Aſſogues ſhips: and beſide the vaſt quantities of cochineal, indigo, ſugar, chocolate, tobacco, ſnuff, hides, cocoa, copper, drugs, and dying ſtuffs. The preceding obſervation, relating to the trade of Amſterdam in this ſame year, may hereafter be of equal uſe in the caſe of the annual ſhipping and trade of Cadiz and Spaniſh America.

1735 “ The lands in the North Riding of the county of York being generally freehold, whereby they could be ſo ſecretly transferred from one perſon to another, and alſo eaſily and ſecretly incumbered, that ſuch perſons as were ill diſpoſed had it in their power to commit frauds, and frequently did ſo; by means whereof, ſeveral perſons who, through many years induſtry, have been enabled to purchaſe lands, or to lend money thereon, have been undone, by prior and ſecret conveyances and fraudulent incumbrances:” ſo ſays the preamble to an act For the public Regiſtering of all Deeds, Conveyances, Wills, &c. that ſhall be made of or that may affect any Honours, Manors, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, within the North Riding of the County of York. “ It was therefore enacted,” in the eighth of King George the Second, cap. vi. (at the humble requeſt of the juſtices of the peace, gentlemen, and freeholders of the ſaid North Riding) “ that a memorial of all deeds and conveyances be exhibited by Michaelmas 1756, and alſo of all wills, devices, judgments, ſtatutes, and recognizances.”

A. D. 1735 “ cognizances,” other than ſuch entered into in the name of his Majeſty and his ſucceſſors, “ of or whereby any honours, lands, &c. may be any way affected in law or equity, ſhall “ be regiſtered, or a memorial thereof, in ſuch manner as herein-after directed,” *i. e.* as was by law directed, in the year 1704, for the Weſt Riding; in 1708, for the Eaſt Riding of this county; and in the year 1709, for the county of Middleſex, “ otherwiſe they ſhall be adjudged fraudulent.” How much is it to be wiſhed, that every part of England and Wales were ſubject to the ſame regulation. And how eaſily might it be effected would gentlemen heartily engage in the eſtabliſhment of it.

The French had of late ſo greatly improved their Eaſt India commerce, as to have had in the preceding year fourteen ſhips out upon that voyage, whereof twelve arrived in Auguſt 1734; whereby their Eaſt India Company was enabled afterward, at their Port l'Orient, in Bretagne, to put up to ſale the following Eaſt India merchandize, viz.

Coffee, tea, drugs, &c. by the pound weight, to the amount of	5,334,712	pounds weight.
Callicoes, ſtuffs, &c.	387,820	pieces.
Canes	4,284	packets.
Malack	500	ditto.
Handkerchiefs of Caſembazard, for ſamples,	71	
Painted handkerchiefs, for ſamples,	39	
Fans	5,000	
Painted paper	2,124	ſheets.
Mother of pearl counters and fiſhes for card playing	28,000	
Varniſh	1,992	cabarets.
China-ware	55	cheſts.
Ditto	189	rolls.

In which catalogue it may be ſeen, that the company were but new and raw in ſome part of their Eaſt India commerce, notwithſtanding the very large quantity of goods now imported.

We ſhould here alſo remark, that in the preceding year 1734 an immenſely rich fleet arrived at Liſbon from Bahia, in Braſil, and another from Rio de Janeiro, which brought home for the King and the merchants, in treaſure,

Cruſados in gold	15½	millions.
Gold duſt and ingots	220	arobs.
Gold in bars	437	ditto.
Wrought gold	48	ditto.
Silver	8,871	marks.
Pieces of eight	42,803	pieces.
Diamonds	3	millions, 36 octaves & 5 quintals.
Tobacco	11,000	rolls.
Hides	113,000	
Sugar	1,000	cheſts.

And many other particulars.

And whereas great quantities of diamonds have of late been brought over from the newly diſcovered diamond mines in Braſil, the King of Portugal, for preventing their ſinking in value by reaſon of the large quantity imported, publiſhed an edict in the beginning of this

1735 year 1735, whereby he reſerved to himſelf all diamonds found in thoſe mines of above twenty carrats, on certain conditions.

By the bill of births and mortality of the imperial capital city of Vienna, for the preceding year 1734, were chriſtened five thouſand ſix hundred and twenty, and buried five thouſand three hundred and eighty: which laſt number multiplied by thirty gives one hundred and ſixty-one thouſand four hundred ſouls in that city; and, if by thirty-three, then it will give one hundred and ſeventy-ſeven thouſand five hundred and forty ſouls therein.

In this year 1735, there was publiſhed an abſtract of a new treaty of navigation and commerce between Great Britain and Ruſſia, viz.

“ I. Where navigation and commerce are permitted to any other nation, they ſhall be perfectly free in Europe to the eſtates of both the contracting parties, who may ſend all ſorts of merchandize, the importation whereof is not prohibited; and may there likewiſe buy all ſorts of merchandize, and export them out of the ſaid eſtates.

“ II. The ſubjects of Ruſſia ſhall pay the ſame duties of exportation as the Engliſh, particularly on the effects exported from Ruſſia. And the Ruſſian merchants ſhall enjoy the ſame liberties and privileges of commerce in Great Britain as do the Britiſh merchants of the Ruſſia Company.

“ III. In caſe Britiſh ſubjects ſhall make contracts with the Chancery, or the College of Commerce of Ruſſia, for the delivery of merchandize, the ſaid merchandize ſhall be received in the time ſpecified, upon a declaration they ſhall make of their being ready.

“ IV. The ſubjects of Great Britain may carry to Ruſſia all ſorts of merchandize, and may tranſport them thence by land into Perſia, on paying a duty of three per cent. and may likewiſe bring back from Perſia, through Ruſſia, all ſorts of merchandize, on again paying the ſaid duty, without being obliged to open their bales: but, if the officers of the cuſtoms have reaſon to ſuſpect, that the juſt value thereof hath not been declared, they may ſtop the goods for their inſpection, and in the mean time be paid according to the value declared.

“ V. The ſubjects of both nations may load their ſhips with any kind of merchandize, paying the ſame cuſtom as other nations do: and, in caſe of fraud in paying the ſaid duties, their goods ſhall be forfeited; but without any other puniſhment.

“ VI. If any more warlike ſtores ſhall be found on board any Britiſh ſhip than ſhall be neceſſary for the uſe of the ſaid ſhip or paſſengers; it ſhall be lawful to ſeize the ſame: but neither ſhip nor effects ſhall be liable to be detained.

“ VII. In caſe of ſhipwreck, all manner of aſſiſtance ſhall be given; without offering the leaſt violence to the ſhip's company or effects.

“ VIII. The ſubjects on both ſides may build houſes, and diſpoſe of them, without being liable to furniſh quarters for ſoldiers. And paſſports ſhall be granted to thoſe who ſhall think fit to retire, within two months after they notify their intention of going away.

“ IX. The Britiſh merchants in Ruſſia ſhall not be obliged to ſhow their books to any one whatſoever, except it be to prove ſomething in diſpute. And, for the greater eaſe and encouragement of the Britiſh commerce, it is agreed, that, for the future, the Engliſh manufactures ſhall pay no greater duty on importation than is ſpecified.

“ This treaty is to be in force for fifteen years, from the date hereof, the ſecond of December 1734.”

In

A. D. 1735 In this ſame year 1735, by a ſtatute of the eighth of King George the Second, cap. xxix. The net Rents and Profits of the Eſtates forfeited by the Attainder of James late Earl of Derwentwater and of Charles Radcliffe, were made applicable for the compleating of the building of Greenwich Hoſpital. In which Hoſpital, it was now hereby enacted, in the firſt place, That all ſeamen in the merchant's ſervice, who ſhall happen to be maimed (not only, as in a former act, in fighting againſt pirates, but alſo) in fighting againſt any enemy whatſoever of his Majeſty, his heirs, and ſucceſſors, ſhall be admitted into, and provided for, in the ſaid hoſpital, in like manner as any ſeaman maimed, wounded, or diſabled in the King's actual ſervice. And, in the next place, the whole net rents of thoſe forfeited eſtates ſhall be for ever applicable to the ſupport of the ſaid royal hoſpital, for the better maintenance of the ſeamen therein, worn out and become decrepit in the ſervice of their country. Yet the ſaid eſtates ſhall ſtill remain veſted in the crown, ſubject to certain incumbrances therein mentioned. This is, truly, a noble application of thoſe eſtates, very much to the nation's honour, and to the comfort and encouragement of our poor worn-out mariners. Which excellent law was further explained and amended, by a ſtatute of the eleventh of the ſaid King, cap. xxx.

We have the following curious piece of intelligence from the anonymous author of an ingenious pamphlet publiſhed in Ireland, intitled, The Queriſt. He affirms for certain, "that "the ſingle port of Cork did, in the year 1735, export one hundred and ſeven thouſand one "hundred and ſixty-one barrels of beef—ſeven thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-nine barrels of pork—thirteen thouſand four hundred and ſixty-one caſks, and eighty-five thouſand "ſeven hundred and twenty-ſeven firkins of butter. A prodigious quantity of proviſions "truly: whilſt half the people of Ireland are ſtarving for want of manufactures and tillage; "paſturage employing ſo much fewer people than any other national employment." This is a pregnant inſtance of the great trade of the city of Cork, which has long been famous for that particular branch of commerce. Since this author wrote, the linen and cambric manufactures of Ireland are very much increaſed, not only in the province of Ulſter, where the linen manufacture firſt began, but are faſt ſpreading over a great part of the other three provinces.

From Paris we received the following Account of the Chriſtenings, Marriages, and Burials, (uſually ſtiled, The Bills of Mortality) of that great city, for the years 1733 and 1734, viz.

	Chriſtened.	*Married.*	*Buried.*
Anno 1733	17,825	4,132	17,406
Anno 1734	19,835	4'130	15,122
			32,528
Medium of the ſaid two years is -			16,264

Now, if we multiply the laſt number by thirty, it gives four hundred and eighty-ſeven thouſand nine hundred and twenty, for the number of ſouls in that city and ſuburb; and if by thirty-three, (the loweſt number yet allowed to have died in the moſt healthy places being one in thirty-three) then the number of ſouls in Paris will be five hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and twelve.

A. D.
1736 In the year 1736, upon Mr. Egede's return from his miſſion in Greenland, he obtained a Miſſion College to be eſtabliſhed at Copenhagen, (according to Dr. Buſching's new Geography) for ſending miſſionaries thither for converting the natives. And the trade from Denmark to Greenland, according to him, is at preſent carried on by a company at Copenhagen, who ſend thither three or four ſhips annually. Dr. Buſching's Geography, publiſhed in Engliſh in the year 1762, likewiſe acquaints us of three or four Chriſtian miſſions then ſettled there, and of four Daniſh colonies now exiſting there; and alſo of a Moravian colony and congregation, now grown ſo conſiderable (viz. in 1761) as to equal all the four Daniſh ones.

The Court of Rome having, as already related, made the port of Ancona, on the Adriatic ſhore of the eccleſiaſtical ſtate, a free port, the Republic of Venice, in their own defence, or by way of precaution, and after much deliberation, at length agreed to make the port of their capital city of Venice likewiſe a free-port; to the great joy of their merchants. By which new regulation, no cargo of merchandize, imported for the future, was to pay any more than one ducat at entrance, and half a ducat upon exportation. Whereby the merchants were thenceforth to be exempted from all that ſlaviſh attendance and dependance upon commiſſioners and cuſtom-houſe officers, and the charges neceſſarily attending the ſame, which ſo much embarraſſed the commerce of this State, and of the merchants of other nations trading thither.

In this ninth year of King George the Second, the firſt act of Parliament, cap. xxix. paſſed, For building a Bridge croſs the River Thames, from the New Palace Yard, or the Woolſtaple, in the City of Weſtminſter, to the oppoſite Shore, in the County of Surry. This noble ſtructure, hitherto the moſt beautiful and uniform ſtone-bridge in all Europe, its vaſt magnitude conſidered, by the Parliament's bounty in granting ſeveral lotteries, and at different times ſeveral ſums of money for it, was at length compleated; much to the honour of the nation, the convenience of inland commerce, and the accommodation of all ranks of people. The ſeveral ſtatutes made concerning it, provided likewiſe for the removing of many old and decayed houſes, and the erecting of the three noble and ſpacious new ſtreets, named, Bridge Street, Parliament Street, and George Street, beſide the adorning of both the Palace Yards, &c. greatly to the ornament of the city of Weſtminſter; which, inſtead of its former dirty and narrow ſtreets, now lifts up its head with grandeur and majeſty on every ſide.

The long diſpute between the King of Denmark and the free imperial city and republic of Hamburg, was, in this year 1736, at length adjuſted, as uſual, always to the diſadvantage of the weakeſt, on the terms following, viz.

" I. That the Hamburgers ſhall pay his Daniſh Majeſty, once for all, half a million of
" Daniſh crowns."—How often has ſuch once-for-all happened?

" II. That they ſhall in a year's time aboliſh their bank current; whereupon the money of
" Denmark ſhall be on the ſame footing with that of Hamburg.

" III. That the merchants and artificers dwelling in the quarter or ward of Schawmberg at
" Hamburg, and who are ſubjects of his Daniſh Majeſty, ſhall not be ſubject to the juriſdic-
" tion of the city of Hamburgh, and ſhall not pay the ſame poll-taxes as the other inhabitants
" of that city do; neither ſhall Daniſh military officers of rank, living at Hamburg, be ſub-
" ject to its juriſdiction, nor the office of the royal poſts eſtabliſhed there.

A. D. 1736 "IV. That the commerce of Hamburg with the Daniſh dominions ſhall be reſtored, and "put upon its former footing: the King of Denmark, at the ſame time, cauſing all the ſhips "and effects of the Hamburgers which he had ſeized, to be releaſed.

"V. Bankrupts at Hamburg taking refuge at Altena, or other parts of Denmark, juſtice "ſhall be done to the ſufferers.

"VI. The Hamburgers rights, concerning veſſels that may chance to be wrecked on the "Daniſh coaſts, ſhall receive no prejudice."

Although we cannot poſſibly undertake to exhibit an exact and circumſtantial ſtate of the modern condition of every city and town even of the Britiſh empire itſelf, and much leſs of thoſe of foreign ſtates; ſince ſuch an undertaking would be equally endleſs and impracticable: yet we ſhall ſuccinctly animadvert thereon. Mr. Drake, in his Hiſtory and Antiquities of the City of York, publiſhed in the year 1736, has ſupplied us with ſome materials of that kind, viz.

"I. There are in the city of York, forty-two gentlemen's coaches, twenty-two hackney-"coaches, and the like number of hackney-chairs in full exerciſe.

"II. A medium of ſeven years births and burials in that city, viz. from 1728 to 1735, is "three hundred and ninety-eight births, and four hundred and ninety-five burials per ann." "And, as York is deemed a healthful place, we ſhall ſuppoſe, that only one in thirty-three of its inhabitants die annually; ſo that four hundred and ninety-five being multiplied by thirty-three, gives the higheſt number of ſouls in the city and ſuburbs of York, viz. ſixteen thouſand three hundred and thirty-five.

"III. York within its gates is two miles and almoſt three quarters in circuit, as ſurveyed "in the year 1664." And, in his Notes, he adds, "That the city of London is very little "bigger within its walls, being but barely three miles in circumference; yet the latter proba-"bly contains ſix times as many inhabitants as York does, owing to the many more void "ſpaces in York than in London."

It was, in this year 1736, computed, that the Portugueſe in Braſil produced ſixty-ſeven thouſand ſix hundred cheſts of ſugar, each of twelve hundred weight; in all, eight hundred and elven thouſand two hundred hundred weight of that commodity. The Portugueſe ſtill ſupply Spain, many parts of the Mediterranean coaſt, Holland, and Hamburg, with a conſiderable quantity of ſugar, as they formerly did England and France, till they laid ten per cent. additional impoſt on their ſugars, and until the two laſt mentioned nations had well cultivated their own ſugar colonies.

The Hollanders are ſaid to produce between thirty and forty thouſand hogſheads of ſugar annually at the colony of Surinam: and they are of late improving their plantations of Barbecies and Iſequebe, adjoining to Surinam, on the continent of South America. The Dutch alſo frequently import ſugars from the Eaſt Indies, and ſome alſo from their own iſles of Euſtatia and Curaçoa.

In this ſame year, by a ſtatute of the ninth of King George the Second, cap. xxxiv. For enabling his Majeſty to borrow any Sum of Money, not exceeding ſix hundred thouſand pounds, to be charged on the Sinking Fund, &c.—One million was paid off on the new joint-ſtock of South Sea annuities, from and after Chriſtmas 1736; which amounted to nine pounds two ſhillings per cent. written off from each proprietor's account, excluſive of fractions.

1736 In the ſame ſeſſion of Parliament an act paſſed, cap. xxxvi. To reſtrain the Diſpoſition of Lands, whereby the ſame became unalienable.

The preamble to this new mortmain law ſets forth, that "whereas gifts or alienations of lands, tenements, or hereditaments, in mortmain, are prohibited or reſtrained by Magna Charta, and by divers other wholeſome laws, as prejudicial to and againſt the common utility; nevertheleſs, this public miſchief has of late greatly increaſed, by many large and improvident alienations or diſpoſitions made by languiſhing or dying perſons, or by other perſons, to uſes called charitable uſes; to take place after their deaths, to the diſheriſon of their lawful heirs: for remedy whereof, be it enacted,—That no manors, lands, tenements, rents, advowſons, or other hereditaments, corporeal or incorporeal whatſoever, nor any ſum or ſums of money, goods, chattels, ſtocks in the public funds, ſecurities for money, or any other perſonal eſtate whatſoever, to be laid out or diſpoſed of in the purchaſe of any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, ſhall be given, granted, aliened, limited, releaſed, tranſferred, aſſigned or appointed, or any way conveyed, or ſettled to or upon any perſon or perſons, bodies politic or corporate, or otherwiſe, for any eſtate or intereſt whatſoever, or any ways charged or incumbered by any perſon or perſons whotſoever, in truſt, or for the benefit of any charitable uſes whatſoever; unleſs ſuch gift, conveyance, appointment or ſettlement of any ſuch lands, tenements, perſonal eſtate, money, &c. (other than ſtocks in the public funds)—be, and be made by deed, indented, ſealed and delivered in the preſence of two or more creditable witneſſes, twelve calendar months at leaſt before the death of ſuch donor or grantor, including the days of the execution and death, and be enrolled in his Majeſty's High Court of Chancery, within ſix calendar months next after the execution thereof, and unleſs ſuch ſtocks be transferred in the public books uſually kept for the tranſfer of ſtocks, ſix calendar months at leaſt before the death of ſuch donor or grantor—and unleſs the ſame be made to take effect in poſſeſſion for the charitable uſe intended immediately from the making thereof, and be without any power of revocation, reſervation, truſt, condition, limitation, clauſe, or agreement, whatſoever, for the benefit of the donor or grantor, or of any claiming under him.—Provided, that the ſaid limitations ſhall extend to puchaſes or transfers made hereafter for valuable conſiderations.—And all ſuch gifts, grants, conveyances, &c. made after Midſummer 1736, otherwiſe than herein directed, ſhall be abſolutely void.—Provided, that nothing in this act ſhall be conſtrued to extend to make void diſpoſitions of lands, tenements, or hereditaments, or of perſonal eſtate, to be laid out in the purchaſe of ſuch lands, &c. which ſhall be made in any other form than by this act directed, to or in truſt for either of the two Engliſh Univerſities and their reſpective colleges or houſes of learning, or for the colleges of Eton, Wincheſter, or Weſtminſter, for the better ſupport and maintenance of the ſcholars only upon the foundation of the laſt-named three colleges.—Provided nevertheleſs, that no ſuch college or houſe of learning, which doth or ſhall hold ſo many advowſons of eccleſiaſtical benefits as are or ſhall be equal in number to half the number of their fellows, or, where there are no fellows, to half the number of their ſtudents upon the foundation, ſhall, from Midſummer 1736, be capable of purchaſing, taking, or otherwiſe holding, any other advowſons by any means whatever; ſuch advowſons as are annexed to the headſhips of colleges not being computed in the number hereby limited."

Several ſocieties petitioned to be excepted out of this bill, particularly, The Corporation for the Sons of the Clergy—that for Queen Anne's Bounty—the Grey Coat Hoſpital in Weſt-

A. D. 1736 Weſtminſter—and the truſtees for the charity-ſchools of London, Weſtminſter, and Southwark. But they were rejected.

“ Laſtly, This act ſhall not extend to Scotland.”

Notwithſtanding the very ill ſucceſs of the late whale fiſhery of the South Sea Company, for eight years together; yet, in this year 1736, one ſhip of private adventurers brought home to London no fewer than ſeven whales; and one hundred and thirty Dutch ſhips were ſaid to have caught this ſame year ſix hundred whales. So precarious is whale fiſhing in the frozen and terrible ſeas of Spitſbergen, &c.

Advices were, in this ſame year 1736, received from Carolina, that the French of Miſſiſippi colony began already to ſhew the natural diſpoſition of that nation to encroachments; by making war, jointly with their own Indians, on a nation of Indians (called Chickaſaws) dependent on Carolina. Their plan undoubtedly being now ſeen to be, to hem in all our ſettlements on the Eaſt coaſts of North America by forts, all along up the river Miſſiſippi as far as Canada, and thereby to exclude the Engliſh from any commerce with the almoſt numberleſs nations of Indians weſt of our colonies; of which plan Dr. D'Avenant (as we have obſerved in our introduction) gave public warning ſo early as the year 1698. Yet, even now, the ſcales did not fall from our eyes. It ſeems the French had got together two thouſand five hundred white men on Mobile river, on which they built a fort with an intent to invade Carolina; but the advice of peace between the French and us, obliged them to diſſemble that deſign, and our Chickaſaws proved too hard in the end for their Indian allies.

For two years paſt, the general courts of the South Sea Company had fruitleſs debates concerning an equivalent propoſed by Geraldino, the Spaniſh court's agent with that company, in lieu of their annual ſhip, which ſeemed rather calculated to amuſe the company, and to delay the Spaniſh court's cedula, or permiſſion, for ſending out of their ſaid annual ſhip, than from any ſerious intent to give the company due ſatisfaction. On the eleventh of Auguſt, in this year 1736, that company's general court took that matter again into conſideration, after much had been printed in newſpapers by way of letters, for and againſt the ſaid equivalent, and alſo for the company's farming their introduction of negroes into particular parts of the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, viz. to Vera Cruz, Campeachy, Guatimala, &c. and the ſeveral demands made by Geraldino before a cedula could be granted: but it being obſerved in this general court, that their court of directors were better acquainted with the ſecret ſprings of thoſe points, it was finally reſolved, “ That the ſeveral matters relating to the diſpatching of an annual ſhip, “ —to the payment demanded by the King of Spain of the quarter part of the gains by the “ annual ſhip Royal Caroline;—and concerning the ſettling the value of the dollars payable “ for the negro duties,—be referred to the court of directors, to do therein as they ſhall think “ may be moſt for the intereſt of the company.”

In this year an account was laid before the Britiſh Houſe of Commons of the ſeveral ſorts and quantities of corn which had been exported from England, between Chriſtmas 1734 and Chriſtmas 1735, with the total of the bounty paid thereon, viz.

	Quarters		£.
Barley	57,520	Bounty	7,190
Malt	219,781	Ditto	26,434
Oat-meal	1,920	Ditto	240
Rye	1,329	Ditto	232
Wheat	153,343	Ditto	38,335

1736 Total number of quarters of the ſeveral kinds of corn was four hundred and thirty-three thouſand eight hundred and ninty-three quarters.

Total bounty paid, ſeventy-two thouſand four hundred and thirty-three pounds.

A fleet of twenty-ſeven ſail arrived at Liſbon from Pernambuco, in Braſil, in this ſame year 1736, the cargo whereof was,

Cruſados for the merchants	1,300,000	In money
——— for the King	200,000	
Diamonds	4	Octaves
Cheſts of ſugar	6,294	
Small cheſts of ditto	700	
Rolls of tobacco	8,6000	
Half hides	84,000	
Whole hides in the hair	13,000	
Braſil wood	11,000	Hundred weight
Violetta wood	450	ditto

The French at this time were juſtly animadverted on by many, for their puſhing with ſo much eagerneſs, into an univerſal commerce, as the ſurer though ſlower way of coming at their old darling ſcheme of univerſal dominion, viz.

Firſt, In Africa, they had monopolized the gum trade at and near the river Senegal; they had alſo encroached on the Engliſh ſettlement at the river Gambia, and had largely increaſed their ſlave trade on that coaſt, for the encouragement of their Weſt India ſugar iſlands: where,

Secondly, They had, at this time, gained ſo much ground on ours as to be the great exporters of ſugar, and alſo of indigo, cotton, and ginger, to many parts of Europe. They had alſo gained a conſiderable ſettlement on the coaſt of Guiana, near Surinam, in South America, encroaching both on the Dutch and Spaniards there. On the north continent of America, they now aſſiduouſly purſued old Louis's plan of forming a chain of forts and ſettlements from the mouth of the great river Miſſiſippi up to their province of Canada,, thereby to cut off our continental ſettlements from any commerce with the vaſt Indian countries weſtward, and in time to get poſſeſſion of them all. For that end they had ſtrongly fortified the iſle of Cape Breton, at or near the entrance of the great river of St. Lawrence, ſerving as well to command that entrance as to protect a very great cod fiſhery, which they have of late ſo vaſtly increaſed in the neighbouring ſeas.

Thirdly, From Quebec, their capital of Canada, they had opened and fortified a communication with the lakes lying behind, and properly as much belonging to our province of New York as any other part of that province can be ſaid to be; and had alſo taken poſſeſſion of the fertile lands round thoſe lakes, much of which they had already cleared and in part cultivated; where they had plentiful crops of wheat, and had alſo found lead mines, which further enabled them to improve their trade with the neighbouring Indians. And (by already endeavouring to remove ſuch Indian nations from the neighbourhood of the Miſſiſippi river as might endanger its navigation) deſigning to carry their wheat, &c. down that vaſt ſtream to New Orleans their Miſſiſippi capital, from thence to ſupply their ſugar colonies therewith, poſſibly cheaper than our northern plantations can at preſent do.—They had alſo planted tobacco in that country, and had begun to ſaw timber for lumber, with a ſimilar view to a trade from thence with their ſugar iſlands. Weſtward they were ſaid to have already extended their communication

A. D. 1737 cation as far as the Spaniſh province of New Mexico; caſting, no doubt, a longing eye on the rich ſilver mines there.—Eaſtward from the Miſſiſippi river, they had by this time ſettled ſo far up the Albanus river as to have forts thereon, within twenty days march of Charles Town, the capital of South Carolina.

Of all which vaſt improvements and encroachments on the territories of other nations, and eſpecially of our own, authentic accounts were laid before our government and our Board of Trade; yet no effectual regard was ſhewn to them: neither did the court of Spain ſeem more to regard their encroachments in the Miſſiſippi country, and on their province of Florida, nor even their more dangerous approach towards New Mexico.

In the Eaſt India commerce alſo, France, as we have before partly ſhewn, had by this time greatly increaſed, even beyond belief, without being duly regarded by ſuch who might, in the beginning, have ruined it and moſt of the above encroachments, had vigorous meaſures been taken in due time.

All which particulars we have here judged fit to be laid together before our readers, at one ſummary view, in order the better to illuſtrate and explain what may hereafter fall in our way in reſpect to the all-graſping deſigns of France, for univerſal commerce as well as dominion It treating of which, and ſeveral other points, it will be impoſſible to avoid obſcurity, without having recourſe to a brief repetition of ſome things, previouſly conſidered in other parts of our work. And although, by our ſubſequent amazing ſucceſs againſt the French colonies in America, matters have been ſince greatly changed, yet the ſteps taken by that nation are well worth tracing, as mementos for futurity.

There was at this time much ſaid in pamphlets and newſpapers in favour of the importation of iron and hemp from the Britiſh continental American colonies, as being two articles of the laſt importance for our navy-royal, and our mercantile ſhipping, as well as for numberleſs other ſervices; and petitions, for this end, were preſented by the merchants to Parliament.

Firſt, It was computed that England imported annually about twenty thouſand tons of foreign iron, whereof fifteen thouſand tons were from Sweden, which coſt about one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, moſtly paid for by us in money, as are moſt of the other five thouſand tons brought from Ruſſia; and that our exports of wrought iron are from three thouſand to three thouſand five hundred tons per annum.

Secondly, That the iron of the Britiſh colonies is as good as any foreign iron whatever; and, with proper encouragement, might be imported in quantities ſufficient to ſupply all the iron we get from thoſe two nations, on whom we are at preſent dependent for that commodity, without their taking ſufficient quantities of our product and manufactures in return; whereas, our own colonies would be entirely paid by our woollen and other manufactures, the demand for which would thereby be much increaſed from thence; and about one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds per annum, would be clearly ſaved to the nation, in the balance of our trade.

It was moreover computed, that England makes annually, at home, about eighteen thouſand tons of bar-iron; the quantity of which, it was ſaid, we could not increaſe, by reaſon of our woods being ſo far exhauſted, as to have greatly enhanced the price of cord-wood uſed in the refining of iron-ſtone: and, were we to import more pig-iron from America, and make leſs of it at home, we ſhould be able, with the ſame quantity of wood we now conſume, to make much more bar iron at home.

A. D. 1737 Thirdly, That nothing is more likely to prevent our American colonies from falling into ſuch manufactures as muſt interfere with our own iron, &c. manufactures, than the giving them encouragements for raiſing and ſending to us ſuch rough materials as pig, ſow, and bar-iron, hemp, &c. as it is well-known of what great advantage to this kingdom the bounties on the importation of pitch and tar from thence have been, ſince the year 1703.

Fourthly, That, for this end, a duty ſhould be laid in the ſaid colonies on all iron imported there from Europe; and that, had the like been done in regard to the prohibiting of the importation of hemp from Europe into thoſe colonies, the bounty now ſubſiſting on American hemp would have, by this time, proved effectual for ſupplying us from thence with all the hemp we want.

On the other hand, the great and natural oppoſers to the merchants petitions, were the proprietors of the Engliſh iron works, and thoſe of the woodlands of England; but as particular intereſt alone was ſo ſtrongly concerned againſt ſo viſible a national benefit, that oppoſition ſeemed then not to be much regarded by impartial men, at leaſt without doors. In fine, the promoters of this ſcheme for encouraging the importation of iron from our American colonies, propoſed, that an additional duty ſhould be laid on all foreign bar iron imported, excepting only ſuch as ſhall be imported from our American colonies:—and to repeal the preſent foreign duty on all bar-iron which may hereafter be imported from the ſaid plantations. Yet ſo many jarring intereſts prevented the legiſlature, at this time, from forming any regulations, though in a matter of ſo much importance.

" In November of this year 1737, the Jamaica merchants petitioned King George II. to be
" protected againſt the great and violent interruptions and ſeizures committed by Spaniſh ſhips
" in the American ſeas, under the plauſible pretences of guarding their own coaſts, by not
" only ſtopping and ſearching, but alſo, for many years paſt, forcibly and arbitrarily ſeizing
" their ſhips on the high ſeas, inhumanly treating the Britiſh commanders and ſailors, and
" condemning our ſhips and cargoes as lawful prizes, in manifeſt violation of ſolemn treaties
" between Great Britain and Spain:—in conſequence of which, the preſent trade to his Ma-
" jeſty's plantations in America is rendered extremely precarious;—humbly praying therefore,
" ſpeedy and ample ſatisfaction to his ſubjects for thoſe loſſes:—and that no Britiſh veſſel be
" detained or ſearched on the high ſeas by any nation, under any pretence whatſoever:—and
" that the trade to America may be rendered ſafe for the future."

This petition his Majeſty received very graciouſly, and promiſed redreſs upon their making good their allegations to the Privy Council, which they afterwards did, in the moſt ſatisfactory manner.

And here we muſt obſerve, that whereas by the treaty of 1670, ſubſiſting between us and Spain, our ſhips are not to reſort or trade to the coaſt of New Spain and its adjoining Spaniſh provinces, unleſs driven thither by ſtreſs of weather, their ſailing near to thoſe ſhores renders them liable to be ſuſpected of carrying on a contraband trade with thoſe American provinces of Spain; the trade to which is abſolutely and ſtrictly confined to Spaniards alone.—Indeed, to ſay the truth, there is ſcarcely any doubt to be made, that our ſloops, &c. from Jamaica, and ſome other Britiſh colonies, did ſometimes run the hazard, for the ſake of gain, and therefore ought to ſubmit to the conſequences. So, on the other hand, it is notorious, that the Spaniſh guarda coſtas, *i. e.* guard-ſhips, did frequently exceed their powers or commiſſions, by ſearching, plundering, and often ſeizing on our Britiſh ſhips ſailing on thoſe American ſeas, even though not ſo near their ſhores as to give juſt ground of ſuſpicion of any clandeſtine trade,

and

A. D. 1737 and though not laden with the produce of the Spaniſh American provinces; but only, perhaps, having, by mere chance, a very few Spaniſh pieces of eight on board found in the ſhip, or perhaps a ſmall parcel of logwood, or other Spaniſh American merchandize found in ſuch ſhip; the firſt being the only coin in our iſland of Jamaica, and the two laſt the produce of that iſland.

In ſhort, theſe mutual complaints did, a few years after, bring on the war between Great Britain and Spain: and although the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in the year 1748, ſeemed to terminate that affair, yet it was but barely to ſeem to do it; and a new and more diſtinct or explicit treaty was ſtill wanting, if intended by either party, for that point, and alſo for the logwood trade of our Britiſh ſubjects in the Bay of Campeachy. To theſe complaints of our merchants, an anſwer was indeed given, in June 1738, by the court of Spain, wherein moſt of the grievances and violences were promiſed to be redreſſed; and the reſt were referred to the enquiry of the Spaniſh governors in America; who were themſelves incompetent judges of the buſineſs, as being parties to many of thoſe violences, and many of them privately concerned in thoſe guarda-coſtas. And thus matters remained, till repeated injuries obliged his Britannic Majeſty to declare war againſt Spain, after having in vain tried by an amicable convention, in the year 1739, as will be ſeen, to preſerve peace.

Chriſtened in London, in the year 1737, ſixteen thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſouls.—Buried, twenty-ſeven thouſand eight hundred and twenty-three. Increaſed in the burials this year, two hundred and forty-two.

1738 By a Britiſh ſtatute of the eleventh year of King George the Second, cap. xxvii. one million of the capital ſtock of the Bank of England was paid off, being a moiety and further part of the two millions capital created by an act of the third year of King George the Firſt. So that the capital ſtock of the Bank of England was hereby reduced to three millions eight hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand twenty-ſeven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten pence: (five hundred thouſand pounds, other part of the ſaid two millions, having been paid off by an act of the firſt year of King George the Second, For granting an Aid to his Majeſty by the Sale of Annuities to the Bank, &c.)

Sir William Keith, in his Hiſtory of Virginia, p. 174, publiſhed in this year 1738, gives the following account of the revenue of that colony, as it then ſtood, and is eſtabliſhed by acts of their aſſemblies, viz.

	£.
" Firſt, The annual receipt of quit-rents, at two ſhillings ſterling per one hundred acres, being the revenue of the crown, paid into the receipt of the King's private Exchequer, is an increaſing fund, amounting at preſent to about - - - - - - -	3,500
" Secondly, The two ſhillings ſterling per hogſhead on tobacco exported, at a medium of thirty-two thouſand hogſheads per annum, is - -	3,200
" Out of which, alſo increaſing, tax, is paid the governor's ſalary of two thouſand pounds per annum.	
" Thirdly, One ſhilling ſterling, per ton, on ten thouſand tons of ſhipping yearly, is - - - - - -	500
Carried forward £.	7,200

	£.
Brought forward	7,200
" Fourthly, The eſtabliſhed fees for marriage licences, probates of wills, and " entering and clearing of ſhips; together with other legal perquiſites belong- " ing to the governor reſiding there, is, per annum - -	600
£.	7,800

It is more than probable, that, ſince that time, every one of the ſaid four articles were conſiderably increaſed.

There was imported into the port of London, on the twenty-third of October 1738, one hundred and fifty-one thouſand two hundred and nineteen yards of linen, manufactured in Scotland, and alſo three thouſand ſpindles of their linen yarn. Such large entries of the linen manufacture, both from Scotland and Ireland, of late, every year increaſing, merit the higheſt encouragement; as they do not only uſefully employ our own people, and better enable them to pay taxes, exciſe, &c. and to conſume more of the product of the country, but, which is of very great importance in the general balance of our commerce, as their ſaid linen manufactures ſhall gradually increaſe, the importation of foreign linen muſt neceſſarily decreaſe in the ſame proportion.

The London bill of mortality for the year 1738, viz. Chriſtened, ſixteen thouſand and ſixty. Buried, twenty-five thouſand eight hundred and twenty-five.—Decreaſed in the burials this year, one thouſand nine hundred and ninety-eight.

It is not ſo eaſy as ſome have pretended, to account for this and many of the preceding years large mortality bills of London, compared with much later years, whilſt no extraordinary ſickneſs happened, and whilſt at the ſame time great additions were conſtantly making to the buildings in its ſuburbs. The beſt reaſons uſually given for the late decreaſe of its bills of mortality, are:

Firſt, The many hoſpitals ſince erected for ſick perſons, whereby, and by the ſmall-pox, &c. hoſpitals, the practice of inoculation, &c. many lives are probably preſerved, which were formerly loſt.

Secondly, Many private dwelling-houſes in many parts within the city of London are from the very viſible increaſe of our commerce, pulled down and turned into warehouſes for merchandize, in conſequence of which, the number of houſholders are ſenſibly decreaſed within the Lord Mayor's juriſdiction: but this we doubt will ſcarcely be admitted as any good reaſon for the general decreaſe of the burials, unleſs it appeared, that thoſe houſeholders had removed from within the limits of the general bills of mortality.

Thirdly, The wars in Germany and America undoubtedly had, at this time, carried away ſome thouſands of our lower people, vagrants, &c.

Laſtly, It is much to be ſuſpected, as elſewhere obſerved, that the Company of Pariſh Clerks of London either have not ſufficient powers by law, or elſe do not exert thoſe powers, for enabling them to be more exact in their ſaid weekly bills.

Under this year we have ſeen briefly related the barbarous and illegal captures of our Britiſh merchant ſhips on the high ſeas of America by the Spaniſh guarda-coſtas, or veſſels pretending to be ſuch. Thoſe grievances were loudly complained of by our Merchants, and the Houſe of Commons, in the year 1738, did thereupon addreſs the King for the purpoſe of obtaining due

A. D. 1738 ſatisfaction of the court of Spain. Moreover, the Britiſh Houſe of Peers, in the ſame year, came to the following reſolution, viz. "That the Spaniards ſearching of our ſhips on the "open ſeas, under pretence of their carrying contraband or prohibited goods, is a violation "of the treaties ſubſiſting between the two crowns." Hereupon, the ſtrongeſt remonſtrances being made to the Spaniſh court, the King acquainted his Parliament, that he had concluded a preliminary convention with Spain, ſtipulating in ſubſtance;

"I. That immediately after the ſigning thereof, two plenipotentiaries on each ſide ſhould "meet at Madrid, finally to regulate the reſpective pretenſions of the two crowns.

"II. Until the limits of Florida and Carolina can be adjuſted, things ſhall remain there in "their preſent ſituation.

"III. His Catholic Majeſty ſhall cauſe to be paid to his Britannic Majeſty ninety-five "thouſand pounds ſterling, as a balance admitted to be due to the crown and ſubjects of "Great Britain, after deduction made of the demands of the crown and ſubjects of Spain; "to the end that the above-mentioned ſum, together with the amount of what has been acknowledged on the part of Great Britain to be due to Spain on her demands, may be employed by his Britannic Majeſty for the ſatisfaction and payment of the demands of his ſubjects upon the crown of Spain. But this reciprocal diſcharge ſhall not relate nor extend to "the differences ſubſiſting between the crown of Spain and the South Sea Company, nor to "any particular or private contracts between either of the two crowns, or their miniſters, "with the ſubjects of the other, or between the ſubjects of one crown with thoſe of the "other.

"IV. If it ſhall happen that, in conſequence of orders diſpatched by the court of Spain, "any part of the value of certain ſhips taken from the Engliſh and included in the aforeſaid "ninety-five thouſand pounds be already paid, the ſame ſhall be deducted therefrom.

"Firſt ſeparate article. The ſaid ninety-five thouſand pounds ſhall be cauſed to be paid by "his Catholic Majeſty at London, within four months after the ratification of this convention.

"Second ſeparate article. The third above-named article ſhall not extend to ſhips taken "ſince the tenth of December 1737: in which caſes juſtice ſhall be done according to the "treaties, as if this convention had not been made. It being however underſtood, that this "relates only to the indemnification and ſatisfaction to be made for the effects ſeized or "prizes taken: but that the deciſion of the caſes which may happen, in order to remove all "pretext for diſpute, is to be referred to the plenipotentiaries to be determined according to "the treaties."

This is the ſubſtance of a convention, which made ſo much noiſe and gave ſo much diſguſt in England. What gave the greateſt diſguſt of all was, the King of Spain's following declaration and proteſt, which he inſiſted on as a preliminary condition of his ratiſying the above convention, viz.

"That he reſerves to himſelf, in its full force, the right of being able to ſuſpend the Aſſiento for negroes, and of diſpatching the neceſſary orders for the execution thereof, in "caſe the South Sea Company doth not ſubject herſelf to pay, within a ſhort term, the ſum "of ſixty-eight thouſand pounds ſterling, which ſhe has confeſſed to be owing on the duty "for negroes, according to the regulation of fifty-two pence per dollar, and on the profits of "the ſhip Royal Caroline: and further declares, that under the validity and force of this proteſt the ſigning of the ſaid convention may be proceeded on, and in no other manner."

The

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The injuſtice of which previous demand on the company was ſo apparent, that, ſoon after, the company's general court, on the firſt of March, reſolved not to pay the ſame, without the King of Spain's coming to a juſt account with them for all the ſeizures and captures of their ſhips and merchandize which he had by former agreements engaged to refund to them, viz.

" I. On our rupture with Spain, in the year 1718, the King of Spain ſeized on all the " company's effects in every part of his dominions, amounting to about one million of dol- " lars, or nearly, in ſterling money, to two hundred and twenty-five thouſand pounds, whilſt " the company's factories were kept up at La Vera Cruz, Panama, Porto Bello, Carthagena, " and Buenos Ayres; and two agents at Madrid; all which was a very great expence.— " Which ſum the King of Spain engaged to make good to the company by the treaty of the " year 1721.

" II. The King of Spain having, in the year 1727, beſieged Gibraltar, he again ſeized on " every thing belonging to the South Sea Company, amounting to about half a million of " dollars, or about one hundred and twenty-two thouſand pounds."

Yet, in the treaty of that ſame year, he promiſed not only to reſtore this laſt-named ſeizure, but alſo the preceding one of the year 1718; though all that was ever received was but a mere trifle, compared to their whole loſs. Now, thoſe confiſcations were the more unjuſt, as being expreſsly contrary to the ſaid Aſſiento Contract; wherein it is ſtipulated, that whatever differences may ariſe between the two crowns, the company ſhall be always allowed eighteen months for the removal of their effects. The company has alſo further demands on the King of Spain: for inſtance,

Firſt, Their juſt claim on him, for one-fourth part of all their loſſes ſuſtained in trade; as by the Aſſiento Contract he was to be a quarter part ſharer in their ſaid trade.

Secondly, The King of Spain ought to make good the loſs the South Sea Company has ſuſtained by his frequent refuſal of their annual ſhip, as well as by the number of ſuch annual ſhips ſhort of what they ſhould have been allowed by the ſaid Aſſiento Contract.

Thirdly, The company has yet further demands to make, whenever a treaty ſhall be ſet on foot: but, in the mean time, theſe conſiderations are more than ſufficient to juſtify their proceedings, and to demonſtrate that the court of Spain was never diſpoſed in earneſt to do juſtice to our injured people. For the King of Spain did not only ſuffer the four months to elapſe, within which time he was to pay the before-named ninety-five thouſand pounds, on the pretext of the South Sea Company's failure of paying his demand of the ſixty-eight thouſand pounds; but, inſtead of fulfilling the aforeſaid convention, he ordered ſeizures to be made of the ſhips and goods of his Majeſty's ſubjects wherever they could be found in his dominions or elſewhere; and alſo ordered all the Britiſh ſubjects in his dominions to depart in a ſhorter time than allowed by treaties. Whereupon Geraldino, his envoy extraordinary, and Terry, his agent, at London, for the Aſſiento Contract, were obliged to leave the kingdom. And his Britannic Majeſty, on the twenty-third of October 1739, declared war againſt Spain; for maintaining the honour of his crown and kingdom, and for the obtaining redreſs of his much injured merchants and traders, who from all parts of the kingdom made earneſt petitions for relief.

It was indeed high time for our government to take this ſtep, though with more than ſeeming reluctance, for the violences and inſolence of the Spaniards in America were become abſolutely intolerable: principally owing to our own ſhamefully puſillanimous temporizing at any rate, rather than reſolutely doing ourſelves juſtice by force of arms; though they perſiſted

more

A. D. 1739 more than ever in the ſearching and ſeizing of Britiſh ſhips, and putting their commanders into irons and priſons, as well as detaining the South Sea Company's ſhips, and locking up that company's warehouſes at Porto Bello, Carthagena, Havanna, &c.

By a Britiſh ſtatute of this twelfth year of King George the Second, cap. xxi. it was enacted, " That whereas the taking off the duties upon woollen or bay yarn imported from Ireland may be a means to prevent the exportation of wool and of woollen manufactures from Ireland to foreign parts, and may alſo be of uſe to the manufacturers of Great Britain, that, from the firſt of May 1740, the ſame ſhall be no longer payable ; excepting only the duties upon worſted yarn of two or more threads twiſted or thrown, or on cruel, imported from Ireland. And whereas, notwithſtanding the ſeveral laws for preventing the exportation of wool unmanufactured from Britain and Ireland to foreign parts, ſuch exportation is notoriouſly continued. For further prevention thereof, it was further enacted, that all wool, woollen or bay yarn, woolfels, ſhortlings, mortlings, woolflocks, worſted yarn, cloth, ſerge, bays, kerſies, ſays, friſes, druggets, cloth ſerges, ſhalloons, ſtuffs, and other draperies, or mixed with wool or woolflocks ; which ſhall from time to time be exported from Ireland into the ports of this kingdom hereafter-mentioned, ſhall be ſhipped off and entered at the ports of Dublin, Waterford, Youghal, Kingſale, Cork, Drogheda, New Roſs, Newry, Wexford, Wicklow, Sligo, Limerick, Galway, and Dundalk ; and from no other part of Ireland whatever. Nor to any other ports of Britain but to Biddiford, Barnſtaple, Minehead, Bridgewater, Briſtol, Milford-haven, Cheſter, and Liverpool. And in veſſels only of the built of Great Britain or Ireland, and duly regiſtered upon oath." With ſeveral other clauſes for preventing of frauds herein, needleſs here to be particularized.

Upon this ſubject, the author of Conſiderations now laid before the Britiſh Parliament, relating to the running of wool, thinks it highly probable, " That more than one million five hundred thouſand people are employed in our Britiſh woollen manufacture : and if theſe earn one with another ſix-pence per day for three hundred and thirteen working days in the year, it will amount to eleven millions ſeven hundred and thirty-ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds." Which is rightly computed, and demonſtrates the immenſe benefit of this manufacture.

The French having gradually gained the aſcendant over us in ſupplying the European market with their ſugars, by being permitted to carry them directly from their own Sugar Iſlands to foreign parts, without being firſt landed in France, it was therefore enacted by a Britiſh ſtatute of this twelfth year of King George the Second, cap. xxx. To grant Liberty to carry Sugars of the Growth, Produce, or Manufacture of any Britiſh Sugar Colonies in America, from the ſaid colonies directly to foreign Parts Southward of Cape Finiſterre, in Ships built in Great Britain, and navigated according to Law. The major part of the proprietors of which ſhips ſhall, upon oath, be reſiding in Great Britain, and the reſidue in the Britiſh Sugar Iſlands, and not elſewhere, and cleared out from Great Britain or the ſaid Britiſh Sugar Iſlands ; on certain conditions therein ſpecified. The French had the advantage of us in this prudent regulation by at leaſt twelve years, as appears by their edicts in the years 1726 and 1727.

In conſequence of a Britiſh ſtatute, for laying a duty on the tonnage of all ſhips belonging or trading to or from the port of Liverpool, for the making of a dock, piers, &c. for that port, we have ſeen a printed liſt of all the ſhips belonging to that famous maritime port and town, taken on the firſt of May 1739: in which it appeared, that their number from thirty

A. D.

1739 tons and upwards was two hundred and eleven ſhips and veſſels, amongſt which that year, there were one of four hundred tons—one of three hundred and fifty—one of three hundred—one of two hundred and fifty—two of three hundred and forty—two of two hundred—two of one hundred and ninety—four of one hundred and eighty—ſeven of one hundred and ſixty—fifteen of one hundred and fifty—ten of one hundred and forty—five of one hundred and thirty—thirteen of one hundred and twenty—ſix of one hundred and ten—and fixteen of one hundred tons each: the reſt from ninety to thirty tons downward. And although the printing of the number of their ſhips be ſince laid aſide, we are well aſſured that the number of ſhipping of that port is ſince very greatly increaſed.

On this ſubject we may remark, that during the year 1738 there arrived, or were entered inwards at the port of Amſterdam one thouſand eight hundred and thirteen ſhips of all ſorts; where Deſcartes, (ſays the Happy future State of England, already quoted in this work) p. 167, in one of his epiſtles, remarks, that all people are traders. *Ubi nemo non mercaturam exercet.* Boyer's Political State, for the month of January 1739, (N. S.) from whom that number of ſhips is taken, remarks, " that the Amſterdamers conjecture, that London has " double the number of ſhips frequenting their port."

In the ſame year Rotterdam had about five hundred ſhips entered inwards.

At London, in this year 1739, chriſtened ſixteen thouſand one hundred and eighty-one: buried twenty-five thouſand four hundred and thirty-two. Decreaſed in the burials in this year three hundred and ninety-three.

Exported in the year 1739 from South Carolina, viz.

Rice	71,484	barrels.
Pitch	8,095	
Turpentine	33	
Tar	2,734	
Deer Skins	559	hogſheads.
Looſe ſkins unpacked	1,196	
Indian corn and peas	20,165	buſhels.
Pine and Cypreſs timber and planks	209,190	feet.
Cedar boards	3,200	
Shingles	42,600	pieces.
Caſk ſtaves	56,821	
Tanned leather	1,535	hides.
Roſin	45	barrels.
Saſſafras	$4\frac{1}{2}$	tons.
Beef and pork	539	barrels.
Potatoes	790	buſhels.

Cleared outward two hundred and thirty-eight ſhips and veſſels.

1740 In this year was firſt erected in Sweden, A Board for the encouraging of Trade and Manufactures; which has proved very advantageous to that nation.

For the better ſupply of ſeamen to ſerve in Britiſh ſhips of war, and alſo on board of merchant ſhips and privateers, and for the better carrying on the preſent war againſt Spain, or any future war, an act of the Britiſh Parliament paſſed in the thirteenth year of King George II. cap. iii. For the better Supply of Mariners and Seamen to ſerve in his Majeſty's Ships of War, and on board Merchant Ships, &c. " Whereby, during the preſent war, merchants

A. D. 1740 " ſhips may be navigated by any number of foreign ſeamen, not exceeding three-fourths of " the ſhip's company. And for the better encouragement of foreign ſeamen to ſerve on board " Britiſh ſhips, either of war, merchant ſhips, or privateers, during this war, ſuch foreign " ſeamen ſo ſerving for two years, ſhall afterward be deemed in all reſpects natural-born ſub- " jects. Provided, they ſhall not thereby be enabled to be of the Privy Council, or to be a " member of either Houſe of Parliament, or to take any office of truſt, civil or military, or " to have any grant of lands, &c. from the crown to himſelf, or to any other perſon in truſt " for him. And the King, his heirs, and ſucceſſors, are hereby empowered in any future " war, by proclamation, during ſuch war, and no longer, to permit the like number of " foreign ſeamen to ſerve in merchant ſhips or privateers, as well as in ſhips of war.

This prudent law was followed by another very wiſe one, which bears, in many reſpects, a ſtriking reſemblance to it: viz.

A ſtatute of the ſaid thirteenth year of King George II. cap. vii. For naturalizing ſuch foreign Proteſtants, and others therein mentioned, as are ſettled, or ſhall ſettle, in any of his Majeſty's Colonies in America, the preamble whereof ſets forth, That " whereas the increaſe " of people is the means of advancing the wealth and ſtrength of any nation or country; and " whereas many foreigners and ſtrangers, from the lenity of our government, the purity of " our religion, the benefit of our laws, the advantages of our trade, and the ſecurity of our " property, might be induced to come and ſettle in ſome of his Majeſty's colonies in America, " if they were made partakers of the advantages and privileges which the natural-born ſubjects " of this realm do enjoy."—It was now therefore enacted, " That, from the firſt day of " June, 1740, all perſons born out of the liegance of his Majeſty, who ſhall have reſided, or " ſhall hereafter reſide, for the ſpace of ſeven years, or more, in any of his colonies in America, and ſhall not have been abſent from thence above two months at any one time, and " ſhall take the uſual oaths of fidelity, or, if Quakers, ſhall ſubſcribe the declaration of fidelity; or, if Jews, with the omiſſion of ſome Chriſtian expreſſions—and ſhall alſo ſubſcribe " the profeſſion of their Chriſtian belief, Jews excepted, as directed by a ſtatute of the firſt of " William and Mary, entitled, An Act for exempting their Majeſties Proteſtant Subjects " from the Penalties of certain Laws, before any judge of the colony they ſhall reſide in; and " ſhall have received the ſacrament of the Lord's Supper in ſome Proteſtant or Reformed congregation in Great Britain, or in the ſaid colonies, Quakers and Jews excepted, within " three months of his or her ſo qualifying, and producing a certificate hereof, ſigned by the " miniſter of the ſaid congregation, atteſted by two witneſſes: a certificate of all which, under the reſpective colony's ſeal, ſhall be a ſufficient proof of his or her being thereby become " a natural-born ſubject of Great Britain, to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever. And the " Secretary of each colony ſhall annually tranſmit to the Board of Trade and Plantations, liſts " of the ſaid perſons ſo naturalized, to be regiſtered in their office. Provided," as in the before-named act of Parliament, " That ſuch perſons ſhall not thereby be enabled to be a " privy counſellor, &c. as in other naturalization ſtatutes."

The more immediate object of this ſtatute was to favour ſome thouſands of Proteſtants perſecuted and oppreſſed in Germany, and elſewhere, as well as many Proteſtants from Switzerland, &c. all of whom were before and about this time ſettled in the different provinces of the Britiſh continental colonies of America, chiefly on the back parts thereof weſtward.

By a ſtatute of the ſaid thirteenth of King George II. cap. xvii. For the increaſe of Mariners and Seamen to navigate Merchant-ſhips, and other trading Ships and Veſſels, it was enacted,

A. D. 1740 "Firſt, That all ſeamen of the age of fifty-five years, or upwards, and all ſuch as have not "attained the full age of eighteen years, and alſo all foreigners ſerving in any Britiſh mer"chant-ſhips, or privateers, ſhall be exempted from being impreſſed into his Majeſty's "ſervice.

"Secondly, Perſons of any age uſing the ſea, ſhall alſo be exempted from being impreſſed "for the firſt two years of his being at ſea; as likewiſe all ſea apprentices, for the firſt three "years of their ſaid apprenticeſhip."

It was in or about this year 1740, or perhaps ſomewhat earlier, that the manufacturing of *tin-plates*, or, more properly, of thin plates of iron tinned over, which foreigners term white-iron, was brought to ſuch perfection in England, after having been long loſt or neglected, ſo that now very little of it was imported from foreign parts; our own being now made of a finer gloſs or coat than that made beyond-ſea, the latter being hammered, and ours being drawn under a rolling-mill. This improvement is a conſiderable benefit to the nation in the general annual balance of trade, there being a very great quantity of this manufacture conſumed in Britain, Ireland, and the plantations, for many neceſſary and various uſes. And although the duty on foreign tinned plates is hereby ſunk, yet the employment given to our own manufacturers thereof, and the money kept at home which was formerly paid for this commodity from Hamburg, greatly over-balances the loſs of the cuſtoms thereon. It was indeed long juſtly wondered at, that England, which had the beſt tin in Europe, and in greateſt quantity, and had iron enough for the purpoſe, ſhould have ſo long continued to pay ſuch great ſums to foreign nations for what we might long ſince have made our own. The making of tinned-plates was one of the projects named bubbles of the year 1720, as elſewhere ſhewn. And although nothing might then be ſeriouſly intended by it but to pick the pockets of the credulous; yet ſome perſons of judgment ſoon after ſeriouſly attempted it with ſucceſs.

By a Britiſh ſtatute of this thirteenth year of King George II. cap. xxviii. For continuing the ſeveral Laws therein mentioned, relating to the Premiums upon the Importation of Maſts, Yards, Bowſprits, Tar, Pitch, Turpentine, Sail-cloth, &c. amongſt other matters, "the "bounty of twenty ſhillings per ton on ſhips employed in the whale-fiſhery, was not only "further continued to the twenty-fifth of December, 1750, but alſo an additional bounty of "ten ſhillings per ton was granted on the ſaid whale-fiſhing ſhips, to continue during our "then war with Spain only: during which time it was hereby alſo enacted, That no har"pooner, line-manager, boat-ſteerer, or ſeaman, in that fiſhery, ſhould be impreſſed from "the ſaid ſervice." Which ſtatute ſhews the ſenſe the legiſlature of that day entertained of the benefits accruing to the public by the whale-fiſhery.

The current advices this year from Conſtantinople gave an account, that the Turks had juſt begun to eſtabliſh regular poſts for the carriage of letters throughout their dominions, after the manner of Chriſtendom; which they hoped would be very advantageous to their commerce, and likewiſe to the Sultan's revenue, which had been greatly impaired by their late wars with the Emperor and with Ruſſia.

In this ſame year 1740, it appeared, by the information of perſons of worth, concerned in the two Britiſh colonies of Virginia and Maryland, that about two hundred Britiſh ſhips were annually and conſtantly employed in that trade, viz. about eighty or ninety ſail for Virginia, and about one hundred and ten to one hundred and twenty to Maryland: that the ſhips trading thither from the out-ports of Great Britain were generally of a leſſer burthen than were thoſe from the port of London: and that of about thirty thouſand hogſheads of tobacco, annually imported from thoſe two colonies into Great Britain, eighteen thouſand were brought home

A. D. 1740 in the London ſhips. Alſo that this computation was excluſive of the veſſels employed by thoſe two colonies in their trade with the other Britiſh continental and iſland colonies of America.

The anonymous author of a pamphlet, entitled, The preſent State of the Revenues and Forces of France and Spain, compared with thoſe of Great Britain, (octavo, 1740) aſſerts, "That in France there were not more than ſix hundred ſail of merchant-ſhips, at the moſt, of all ſizes: and that, reckoning twenty-five ſailors to each, one with another, all the ſeamen of France did not exceed thirty thouſand, including the eleven thouſand ſeamen claſſed by the King, who have leave to ſerve on board the merchant-ſhips, till wanted for the King's ſervice. And, that in caſe of a naval war with Britain, France will be obliged to augment her marine to what it was in their former war with England, viz. to one hundred and twenty ſhips of war, and forty gallies." What this plauſible and ſpirited writer computes, might then poſſibly be true; but we have ſince had recent experience, that both their merchant-ſhips and ſailors were conſiderably more in number than he then computed them to be.

In the ſame year his Britannic Majeſty, by letters-patent, erected civil and criminal courts of juſtice at his town and port of Gibraltar. How far this regulation, had it been put in practice, would have influenced greater numbers of Britiſh ſubjects to ſettle there, we ſhall not venture preciſely to gueſs; but, if that ſhould come to be the caſe, the rents of houſes would gradually increaſe, and therewith fines upon entry,—acknowlegements for landing of goods, as at Leghorn, and other free ports,—anchorage in the bay,—leaſes of ground,—ſome moderate taxes on liquors and proviſions conſumed there,—and ſuch other benefits which might naturally be expected from a civil government's being there actually eſtabliſhed under the mild laws and privileges of a Britiſh conſtitution; which might poſſibly, altogether, occaſion ſuch a revenue to accrue to the crown and nation there, as might in time eaſe the public of more than ſixty thouſand pounds per annum, which that moſt uſeful and important fort and port coſts the Britiſh nation. Why our expectations, in theſe reſpects, have not been fully anſwered hitherto, lies properly before a higher tribunal than we ſhall name, whoſe intereſt is ſo nearly concerned therein, and whoſe power, as well as inclinations, when proper informations ſhall be laid before them, can undoubtedly rectify whatever ſhall be found to have been hitherto amiſs.

In this ſame year, his Majeſty King George II. of Great Britain, and ſovereign of the town of Staden, in the duchy of Bremen, was graciouſly pleaſed entirely to remit to all Britiſh and Iriſh ſhips the ancient toll payable at Staden by the ſhips of all nations in ſailing up the river Elbe. For which bounty, as in duty bound, his ſaid Majeſty received an humble addreſs of thanks from the Britiſh Company of Merchant-adventurers trading to Hamburg.

The King of Great Britain having been addreſſed in the preceding year by his Parliament, for regulating the currency of the paper-money of his American continental colonies, we ſhall here exhibit the then preſent value thereof as follows, viz.

	£. *currency.**	
New England, (*i. e.* principally Maſſachuſet's Bay) Connecticut, Rhode Iſland, and New Hampſhire,	525	For 100l. ſterling money.
New York	160	
The Jerſeys	160	
Pennſylvania	170	
Maryland	200	
North Carolina	1,400	
South Carolina	800	

1740 * In a letter, on this occaſion, from a merchant at Boſton, in New England, to a friend in England, concerning the different values of paper currency in the Britiſh plantations, we have an explanation hereof, viz.

"Upon the continuance of a favourable turn in the trading circumſtances of the province "of New England, the government might ſtop at any rate which ſilver ſhould fall to, and "make that rate the fixed ſilver pound, and make it a lawful tender; and the common con- "ſent or acceptance of the people would complete the ſcheme of ſilver money. And thus "the ſterling pound is fixed, in England, to three ounces ſeventeen pennyweights and ten "grains of ſilver of a certain fineneſs, or ſilver at five ſhillings and two-pence per ounce. But "if that kingdom were under our unhappy circumſtances, as not having a ſufficiency in value "of ſilver and all other exports, to diſcharge the whole demand in return for their" (that is, Great Britain's) "imports; it would then be next to a miracle if ſilver did not riſe to "above five ſhillings and two-pence per ounce in the markets, in proportion to the balance "of debt againſt them: and their trading circumſtances continuing to decline, as ours have, "their ſilver would be brought to twenty-ſeven ſhillings per ounce, as ours is, and the cur- "rent money of Great Britain be at the rate of twenty-ſeven ſhillings per ounce, whatever "the lawful money might be. This is evident from the ſucceſs of Queen Anne's procla- "mation, in the third year of her reign, and the act of Parliament ſubſequent upon it, de- "ſigned to fix the plantation pound to two ounces ſixteen pennyweights ſixteen grains of ſil- "ver, of the fineneſs of common pieces of eight, at ſix ſhillings and ten-pence halfpenny per "ounce: which moſt certainly was well intended, but for the aforeſaid reaſons could not take "effect; and there is but one plantation that I know of, viz. Barbadoes, where common "ſilver is received by weight, agreeable thereto; Virginia not ſo high, and all the others "beyond that ſtandard, in very different degrees."

In the month of Auguſt, 1740, the ſale of the French Eaſt India Company's merchandize at Port L'Orient amounted to twenty-two millions of livres, or about one million ſterling; which ſufficiently demonſtrates the vaſt increaſe of that company's commerce to Eaſt India, in the ſpace of a few years paſt.

One thouſand ſix hundred and forty-five ſhips were entered inward at Amſterdam, during the year 1740; which is one hundred and ſixty-eight ſhips fewer than in the year 1738.

At that city, in the ſaid year 1740, there died ten thouſand and fifty-ſix perſons; being above two thouſand five hundred more than in the preceding year.

At Paris, in the year 1739, chriſtened	19,781
——— 1740, ———	18,632
In both years	38,413
At Paris, in the year 1739, buried,	21,989
——— 1740, ———	25,284
In both years ½—	47,273
Average of burials	23,636½ in one year.

Being ſtill at war with Spain, his Majeſty of Great Britain had ſent out, in this ſame year 1740, an experienced commander, Commodore George Anſon, Eſq. afterwards a peer of the realm, and worthily placed at the head of the Admiralty-board, with one ſhip of ſixty guns, A.D. 1740 two of fifty guns each, one of forty, and one of twenty guns, a ſloop, and two victuallers, into the South Seas of America, for the purpoſe of diſtreſſing Spain as much as poſſible. It is true, this expedition was rather a matter of war than of commercial hiſtory; yet, as it has ſome relation to commerce, and as it likewiſe ſhews the weak ſtate of Spain in the South Sea, when at war with us, it appears to be proper, though very briefly, to relate its ſucceſs.

The Commodore ſailed from Portſmouth in September 1740, and in May 1741, he got round Terra del Feugo into the South Sea, after much peril and loſs by ſtorms. In September 1741, he took a rich Spaniſh prize; and, coaſting along Chili, in November, in the ſame, year, he took another Spaniſh prize, laden with cloth and iron. Sailing to the coaſt of Peru, he took, plundered, and burnt the town of Payta, in the ſame month and year. Then he ſailed to the coaſt of Mexico, and oppoſite to the harbour of Acapulco, he learned that the Manilla ſhip was not to ſail during that ſeaſon; wherefore, in May 1742, he ſteered weſtward for the coaſt of China, where he arrived in November 1742, and remained in the road of Macao until April 1743, when he ſailed for the Philippine Iſles; where, in June 1743, he engaged and took an immenſely rich Acapulco ſhip, bound for Manilla, with the treaſure of which he ſailed homeward, reaching the Cape of Good Hope in March 1744; and, on the fourteenth of June the ſame year, he anchored at Spithead, with only the Centurion, the above-mentioned ſixty gun ſhip, all the reſt being loſt, or left, as unable to proceed. This circumnavigation of the terraqueous globe, was much to the glory of the nation, and to the well-merited emolument of the noble commander of it. We have, in our General Index, placed this circumnavigation as the ſixth of that ſort; yet we are not unacquainted, that there were others beſides thoſe ſix made before my Lord Anſon's voyage: but thoſe ſix being the moſt authentic, may ſuffice for our general purpoſe.

In this ſame year 1740, the province of South Carolina exported ninety-one thouſand one hundred and ten barrels of rice, ten thouſand two hundred and ſixty-three barrels of pitch, two thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-four barrels of tar, five hundred and ſixty two barrels of turpentine, four hundred and thirty-two hogſheads of deer-ſkins, beſide cheſts and looſe ones, &c.

1741 In the year 1741, the late induſtrious and ingenious Mr. John Smart, of the Town-Clerk's office in London, publiſhed an accurate account of the number of houſes in every precinct of the twenty-five wards within the bars, or limits of the Lord Mayor of London's juriſdiction, (the twenty-ſixth ward, named Bridge Ward Without, not having any houſes reckoned therein) dedicated to and for the uſe of the deputies and common council-men of thoſe wards, in which account he makes the whole number of houſes therein to amount but to twenty-one thouſand ſix hundred and forty-nine. And, although in his dedication to the common-council, he deſires them to correct the errors in his account, which, he ſays, like a modeſt man, "I fear are many;" yet, as he was known to be an accurate perſon, and that no one has animadverted on, nor contradicted the ſaid account, we may take it for granted, that it is a true one.

How inaccurate then muſt writers of the former part of the preceding century have been, by magnifying the number of ſouls within the ſaid juriſdiction beyond all poſſible probability? More eſpecially when it is conſidered, that after the great conflagration, in the year 1666, very many void ſpaces were built up, as well as the ground of ſpacious houſes and gardens of moſt of our nobility, gentry, &c. who formerly reſided within thoſe limits, and which have ſince been built up into narrow ſtreets, alleys, and courts; whereby the number of houſes

A. D.
1741 muſt, upon the whole, have been conſiderably increaſed ſince that fatal period; even although, for the greater ornament, we admit that ſeveral ſtreets, ſince that time, have been made wider and more uniform than they were before the year 1666. Of the number of perſons ſuppoſed to be contained in every houſe, one with another, in the modern city of London, enough will be found in our preface. The late great increaſe of merchants and wholeſale dealers in our own time in that city, has obliged them to pull down numbers of houſes in different parts of it, for erecting in their room large warehouſes with cellars, which farther leſſens the number of houſes in the city.

The immenſe increaſe of the linen manufacture of the kingdom of Ireland, at this time, is almoſt incredible, were there not ſo many undoubted living teſtimonies of it; enough indeed to alarm all the foreign linen countries, and to give ſolid pleaſure to all truly intelligent Britons; as whatever adds to the wealth and ſtrength of the kingdom of Ireland is a real acceſſion of ſo much of both to the Britiſh empire. In a letter from Ireland, in this ſame year 1741, we were told, that at the acceſſion of King William the Third, in the year 1689, Ireland did not export to the value of ſix thouſand pounds in linen; whereas, ſays the ſaid letter-writer, they now exported annually an hundred times as much in value, or ſix hundred thouſand pounds.

This great improvement long before was foreſeen partly and foretold by Sir William Temple, in his Miſcellanies, ſecond edition, 1681. "No women," ſays that great man, "are apter to ſpin linen thread well than the Iriſh; who, labouring little in any kind with "their hands, have their fingers more ſupple and ſoft than other women of the poor condi-"tion amongſt us. And this may certainly be advanced and improved into a great manu-"facture of linen, ſo as to beat down the trade both of France and Holland, and draw much "of the money which goes from England to thoſe parts upon this occaſion into the hands of "his Majeſty's ſubjects of Ireland, without croſſing any intereſt of trade in England. For, "beſide what has been ſaid of flax and ſpinning, the ſoil and climate are proper for whitening, "both by the frequent brooks, and alſo of winds in that country.

By the Engliſh Ruſſia Company's charter, of the firſt and ſecond of Philip and Mary, which was confirmed by a ſtatute of the eighth year of Queen Elizabeth, they have the ſole privilege of not only trading (from London) to the dominions of Ruſſia, but likewiſe to the countries of Armenia Major and Minor, Media, Hyrcania, and Perſia, on the Caſpian Sea. An attempt was accordingly made by that company for trading into Perſia by the great river Volga and the Caſpian Sea, in the year 1558, as related under that year: but that project was ſoon dropped, as being in thoſe early times thought too hazardous; and it has remained in ſuſpence ever ſince, until this year 1741, when an act of Parliament was obtained by that company, For opening a Trade to and from Perſia through Ruſſia. For which end a clauſe was inſerted in this act, fourteenth of King George II. cap. xxxvi. For opening a Trade to and from Perſia through Ruſſia; whereby the act of navigation of the twelfth of King George II. was ſo far diſpenſed with, which enjoins, that no merchandize ſhall be imported to England or Ireland but from the place of their growth, production, or manufacture, or from thoſe parts where the ſaid goods and commodities could only be had, or were uſually or actually wont to be firſt ſhipped for tranſportation. And as raw ſilk and other Perſian commodities had not been uſually brought to England through Ruſſia, it was hereby enacted, that the ſaid raw ſilk, &c. might neverthleſs be ſo imported through Ruſſia, in Britiſh ſhips, legally navigated, ſuch raw ſilk, &c. being purchaſed by barter with woollen or other Britiſh manufactures

tures or product exported to Ruſſia, upon paying the ſame cuſtoms as the Levant Company now pays for the ſame brought from the Levant.

This new ſcheme was for ſome time ſucceſsfully practiſed; conſiderable quantities of raw ſilk and other Perſian merchandize, having been imported in this way, as appears by a ſupplemental ſtatute, of the twenty-third of the ſaid King, For permitting Raw Silk, of the Growth or Produce of Perſia purchaſed in Ruſſia, to be imported into this Kingdom from any Port or Place belonging to the Empire of Ruſſia. By which laſt-named ſtatute it was enacted, "That, from Chriſtmas 1750, all freemen of the Ruſſia Company (and they only) "may import into this kingdom from Ruſſia, in Britiſh built ſhips, navigated according to "law, raw ſilk of the growth of Perſia, purchaſed by barter with woollen or other manufac-"tures, &c. from Great Britain to Ruſſia, although the ſame be not carried from thence "into Perſia, or with the produce ariſing from the ſale of ſuch commodities, and not other-"wiſe, atteſted upon oath, under the ſame cuſtoms and regulations, &c. as the Turkey Com-"pany are ſubject to for raw ſilk from Perſia:" until the wars and deſolations rendered that trade impracticable; as it remains to the preſent time. And it was ſaid to be a profitable branch of buſineſs to the Ruſſia merchants.

Whereas, at this time, certain projects and ſchemes were publiſhed in the Britiſh continental colonies of America, For ſupplying a Want or pretended Want of a Medium in Trade, by ſetting up a Bank on Land Security: the ſtock of which bank, to be raiſed by public ſubſcriptions for large ſums of money, whereof ſmall ſums were from time to time to be paid in by the particular ſubſcribers, and to be managed by directors, treaſurers, and other officers; and dividends were to be made, as therein mentioned: and the ſaid company of ſubſcribers were to promiſe to receive the bills which they ſhould iſſue as ſo much lawful money in all payments, trade, and buſineſs; and, after the expiration of twenty years, to pay the poſſeſſors the value thereof in manufactures. And as ſeveral other ſchemes, ſocieties, partnerſhips, or companies, have been propoſed, and may be ſet on foot in America, contrary to the true intent and meaning of a ſtatute of the ſixth of King George the Firſt, cap. xvii. For better ſecuring certain Powers and Privileges intended to be granted by his Majeſty's two Charters, for Aſſurance of Ships and Merchandize at Sea, &c. And for reſtraining ſeveral extravagant and unwarrantable Practices therein mentioned and deſcribed; and for preventing the like for the future. Whereby, "the preſuming to act as a corporate body,—or to make "transfers or aſſignments of ſhares, without legal authority,—or the pretending to act under "any charter, formerly granted from the crown, for any particular or ſpecial purpoſes there-"in expreſſed, by perſons endeavouring to make uſe of ſuch charter for any ſuch other pur-"poſe not thereby intended, and all acting under any ſuch obſolete charter herein deſcribed, "ſhould be deemed to be public nuiſances, and to be triable accordingly—as per the ſtatute "of the ſixteenth year of King Richard II. And whereas doubts have ariſen, whether that "act does extend to his Majeſty's dominions in America;" it was now enacted, fourteenth of George II. For reſtraining and preventing ſeveral unwarrantable Schemes and Undertakings in his Majeſty's Colonies and Plantations in America, "That the ſaid act of the ſixth "of King George the Firſt, and every part thereof, ſhall extend to Britiſh America, and the "contraveners ſhall be liable to the like fines, puniſhments, &c. to be tried in the King's "courts in America." This was a prudently intended law: for, as the ſaid colonies grow greater and more populous, projects and ſchemes might get into their heads, which would prove very detrimental to the induſtry and parſimony neceſſary to ſuch colonies.

A. D. 1741 The welfare and proſperity of Great Britain depending much on the giving all due encouragement to mariners to enter voluntarily into the King's ſhips; an act of this ſame fourteenth of King George II. cap. xxxviii. was made, For the Encouragement and Increaſe of Seamen, and for the better and ſpeedier Manning his Majeſty's Fleet. "Whereby a bounty of five "pounds over and above his wages, was granted to every able ſeaman, and three pounds to "every ordinary ſeamen; and the widows of ſuch as ſhall be killed in the King's ſervice ſhall "receive one year's pay, as a bounty. And this act ſhall extend to Ireland. And whereas "ſailors, taking advantage of the preſent war with Spain, have inſiſted on very extravagant "wages,—it was hereby enacted, that, for one year to come,—no ſeamen in the merchants "ſervice ſhall be paid more than thitty-five ſhillings per month."

The remote weſt and north-weſt parts of the coaſts of Great Britain and Ireland, and the iſles thereunto belonging, not being thought as yet to be in all reſpects accurately laid down in the ſea charts, a ſtatute paſſed in this fourteenth year of King George II. cap. xxxix: For ſurveying the chief Ports and Headlands on the Coaſts of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Iſlands and Plantations thereto belonging, in order to the more exact Determination of the Longitude and Latitude thereof. Which act reciting the ſtatute of the twelfth of Queen Anne, For providing a public Reward for ſuch Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea; which directs the commiſſioners of the navy to ſet apart two thouſand pounds for making experiments towards finding out the ſaid longitude; "the commiſſioners for diſcovering the longitude are "hereby empowered to apply ſuch part of the ſaid two thouſand pounds as has not already "been laid out in experiments, for the making ſuch ſurvey, and determining the longitude "and latitude of the ſaid chief ports and headlands." It is even ſtill to be apprehended, that ſome parts on the Britiſh ſhores, and more eſpecially thoſe of the weſtern and north-weſtern iſles of England, and on the weſt ſide of Ireland, require a more accurate ſurvey; but more than the whole ſum herein-named would be required to execute that neceſſary point to effectual purpoſe.

Married in the year 1741, at Amſterdam, two thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-ſix couple of perſons; buried, in this year 1741, at Amſterdam, nine thouſand eight hundred and ſixty-four perſons.

Arrived this year at Amſterdam one thouſand eight hundred and thirteen ſhips; as by the Dutch newſpapers, viz.

	Ships.
Whereof there came from Sweden	25
Ruſſia, and other parts of the Baltic Sea	405
Greenland and Davis's Streights	150
France	336
Spain	111
Portugal	80
Italy	23
The Levant	10
Barbary	5
The Eaſt Indies	15
The Weſt Indies	99
	1,259

A. D. 1741 As England, Scotland, Ireland, and Flanders are not herein named, the reſt muſt have come from thence, as being near neighbours, and may very well be ſuppoſed to have amounted to five hundred and fifty-four ſhips or veſſels of all kinds. It is unneceſſary here to remark, how vaſt a commerce muſt be carried on by this mighty city, and conſequently what immenſe riches muſt be poſſeſſed by the inhabitants of it.

After twenty years ſilence concerning the formerly ſo much talked of, and wiſhed for, and ſo often fruitleſsly attempted north weſt paſſage to China, Japan, and India; an ingenious and well-informed gentleman of Ireland, Arthur Dobbs, Eſquire, ſince governor of North Carolina, earneſtly applied to the Admiralty Board for a new attempt to be made for finding that ſuppoſed paſſage, at the government's expence: urging the great probability of it, by many very plauſible arguments. The King and his Miniſters being unwilling to diſcourage a propoſal, which, if ſucceſsful, muſt probably be attended with great advantages to the nation, gave directions to the Admiralty Board (where Sir Charles Wager, an experienced navigator, at this time preſided) to ſend out two of the King's ſhips on that diſcovery, under the direction of Captain Chriſtopher Middleton, who had been twenty years a commander in the Hudſon's Bay Company's ſervice.

His inſtructions from the Board of Admiralty, on a ſuppoſition of finding a paſſage, were in ſubſtance as follows:

" In places where you meet with inhabitants, make purchaſes with their conſent, and take " poſſeſſion of convenient ſituations in the country, in the name of his Majeſty of Great " Britain: but where there are no inhabitants, you muſt take poſſeſſion, by ſetting up proper " inſcriptions, as firſt diſcoverers and poſſeſſors. If, in your paſſage, you meet with any " ſhips trading to the weſtern countries, eaſtward of Japan, or any Japaneſe ſhips, and you " apprehend any danger from them, either from their force or number, you are to proceed no " further on the diſcovery, but immediately to return; that ſhips of ſufficient force may be " ſent out next ſeaſon, to begin a trade or make a ſettlement, without any apprehenſion of " diſturbance from any powerful nations on that ſide, leſt any accident ſhould prevent your " return, and diſcourage any further attempts to be made for the future. If you ſhould arrive " at California, without any apprehenſion of danger, and chuſe to winter in forty-two degrees, (where Caxton is ſaid to have found a civilized nation, and a good harbour) or elſe " more ſoutherly; then endeavour to meet Captain Anſon, in the month of December, before the arrival of the Manilla," or Acapulco, " ſhip at Cape St. Lucas, the ſouthern cape " of California; and leave a copy of your journal with him, leſt any accident ſhould happen " to you upon your return, and ſo the diſcovery be loſt, and that it might prevent ſhips being " ſent out to your relief in caſe of ſhipwreck.

" Given under our hands, the twentieth of May 1741.

" CHARLES WAGER,
" THOMAS FRANKLAND,
" GLENORCHY."

Theſe inſtructions are printed in Captain Middleton's defence of his own conduct, publiſhed in the year 1743.

He ſailed, in 1741, on the diſcovery, and wintered in the vaſt bay of Hudſon, at one of the company's forts at Churchill River; and in the ſummer of 1742, he ſailed again as far north as ſixty-ſix and a half degrees, and ſearched into an inlet or river, weſtward, which he named Wager River, &c. and being now fully confirmed, that no ſuch paſſage was to be found, he returned home, that ſame year, with the King's ſhips.

1741 This produced a great deal of altercation, in print, between him and Mr. Dobbs, who was ſo eagerly bent on that diſcovery : Capt. Middleton inſiſting on the above inlet's being merely a river above-named : Mr. Dobbs inſiſted it was the paſſage wiſhed for ; though he never was in thoſe ſeas : a circumſtance which gave the captain a great advantage over him. Mr. Dobbs accuſed the latter of favouring the Hudſon's Bay Company, who, as he alleged, had no ſort of inclination to forward this diſcovery, as believing it would be the means of laying open their trade, as they certainly have no legal excluſive right by act of Parliament, but merely by King Charles the Second's charter.

Mr. Dobbs alſo alleged, that this Company ſell their goods to the ſavages in that Bay at two thouſand per cent. profit : he is therefore for diſſolving the Company, and for laying the trade open to all the King's ſubjects.—He accuſes him, whom, however, he admits to be a capable perſon, as well as the company, of knowing and concealing the paſſage.—That there are many marks of ſuch a paſſage ; as, particularly, the ſaltneſs of the water, the ſtrength of tides and currents up Wager Streight, (alias river) and the finding black whales therein, and in the opening called the Welcome, near it.—Yet Captain Middleton endeavours to account for this, by ſuppoſing ſome under-ground paſſage for the ſea out of Baffin's Bay, or Davis's Streight, &c. And here we muſt leave this dark ſubject for the preſent.

1742 The old or original capital of the Bank of England, of one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds, being at an intereſt of ſix per cent. till the firſt of Auguſt 1743, when alſo that company's excluſive privileges expire ; and the natural intereſt of money being at this time very low ; the government, availing itſelf thereof, made this year a contract with the Bank, and had it confirmed by an act of Parliament of this fifteenth of King George the Second, cap. xiii. For eſtabliſhing an Agreement with the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, for advancing the Sum of One Million Six Hundred ThouſandPounds, towards the Supply for the Service of the Year 1742—" That the Bank ſhould advance the ſaid one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds more without any additional intereſt whatever ; *i. e.* by agreeing that both ſums, amounting to three million two hundred thouſand pounds, ſhould bear an intereſt of only three per cent. In conſideration of which ſervice to the public, the Bank, by this ſtatute, had their privileges of excluſive banking, (of any partnerſhip beyond ſix perſons) till one year's notice, and repayment of the principal and arrears, after the firſt of Auguſt 1764." By this act, " perſons forging, counterfeiting, or altering of any bank note, bill of exchange, dividend warrant, or any bond or obligation under that company's ſeal, or any indorſement thereon, or knowingly utter the ſame, ſhall ſuffer death without benefit of clergy.—Moreover, the company's ſervants breaking their truſt to the company ſhall ſuffer death as a felon, without benefit of clergy."—It was alſo enacted, " that when, at a Court of Directors of the Bank, neither the governor nor deputy-governor ſhall attend in two hours after the time appointed for buſineſs, then any thirteen or more of the directors may chuſe a chairman for the time, for the diſpatch of buſineſs ; which court ſhall be as valid as if either the governor or deputy-governor had duly attended.—Hereby the Bank was authoriſed to take in ſubſcriptions for advancing the ſaid one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds."

In this ſame year 1742, the Britiſh Parliament taking it into their conſideration, that the linen manufactures of Great Britain and Ireland were of late years greatly improved ; ſo that the prices as well of foreign as of home fabric were conſiderably reduced, did, for extending of thoſe advantages as much as poſſible, by an act of Parliament of the fifteenth and ſixteenth of King George II. cap. xxix. For granting to his Majeſty an additional Duty on foreign Cam-

A. D. 1742 bricks imported into Great Britain; and for allowing thereout a Bounty upon certain Species of Britiſh and Iriſh Linen exported—"lay an additional duty on foreign cambricks imported, "of one ſhilling and five pence for every half piece, and two ſhillings and ten pence for "every whole piece. Out of which additional duty there ſhall be allowed a bounty of one "penny for every yard of Britiſh and Iriſh linen, worth from ſix pence to twelve pence per "yard in value; and one halfpenny per yard for linen under the value of ſix pence per yard, "exported."

It has, for very many years paſt, been judged of the laſt conſequence, that the trade and navigation to and from the Britiſh American plantations, ſhould be entirely confined and ſecured ſolely to Britiſh, Iriſh, and American ſubjects; for which end it was, by a ſtatute of the ſeventh and eighth of King William III. and the fiſth of Queen Anne, and now confirmed by an act of Parliament of the fifteenth and ſixteenth of King George II. cap. xxxi. For further regulating the Plantation Trade, &c. enacted, "That all ſhips trading from Britain "and Ireland, and alſo all ſhips of our American plantations, ſhould be regiſtered, as Britiſh, "Iriſh, or plantation built, or elſe prize ſhips made free; and a certificate of ſuch regiſter was "to be always ready in the maſter's hands: many frauds had nevertheleſs been diſcovered in "this reſpect, certificates of ſuch regiſters having been frequently ſold to foreigners, whoſe "ſhips, under colour thereof, have been admitted to trade to and from the Britiſh plantations, contrary to thoſe former laws. For prevention whereof, the laſt above-named "ſtatute obliged the maſter of every ſhip, arriving in America, to take an oath of all the "qualifications neceſſary for aſcertaining of ſuch ſhip to be a qualified one for trading thither, and to be abſolutely and ſolely the property of his Majeſty's Britiſh, Iriſh, or American ſubjects."

In this year 1742, ſome Ruſſian adventurers from Tartary, for the diſcovery of America, having now, as well as in ſome former years, diſcovered the coaſts of America, of which they actually had ſight, and particularly of California, had it ſeems ſailed twelve and a half degrees north of that country, where no voyager had been before. "From thoſe diſcoveries of "the Ruſſians, it may be concluded," ſays Dr. Buſching, in the firſt volume of his very valuable Geography of Europe, p. 524, Engliſh tranſlation, "that Aſia and America, about "the ſixty-ſixth degree of north latitude, are ſeparated from each other only by a very narrow "channel."

	Children.
At the city of Dublin, in this year 1742, there were chriſtened -	1,357
	Perſons.
———————— buried - -	2,320
Which laſt number multiplied by - - - -	33
Gives the probable number of ſouls in Dublin to be - -	76,560

Provided the numerous Papiſts of that city, and all the Proteſtant Diſſenters, do duly regiſter their burials, which at leaſt is doubtful.

At Amſterdam there arrived, in the year 1742, one thouſand five hundred and ninety-one ſhips.

A. D. 1743 Although the controverſy from the preſs, between Mr. Dobbs and Captain Middleton, concerning the paſſage through Hudſon's Bay weſtward to China, &c. and the nature of the Hudſon's Bay Company's trade with the ſavages of that Bay, be too prolix to be totally tranſcribed into this work; yet there were many branches of it thereby brought to light, which are well worth recording in this work.

The Captain, in his farther Vindication, printed in the year 1743, obſerves, "That until "a little above twenty years before, the voyage to Hudſon's Bay was ſeldom made without "wintering there." Which ſhews, that the company has thereby made a conſiderable improvement therein, and a conſiderable ſaving muſt needs be made by not wintering at their forts on ſo inhoſpitable a ſhore.

Mr. Dobbs has taken the pains to give the public the entire ſale of all that company's returns, in the year 1743, viz.

Skins.		£.	s.	d.
26,750	beaver ſkins, ſold for	9,780	4	0
12,370	martins	4,242	7	0
2,360	damaged ditto	442	10	0
590	otters	413	0	0
850	cats	765	0	0
260	ditto, damaged	52	0	0
320	foxes	200	0	0
600	wolverins	205	0	0
170	ditto, damaged	27	12	0
320	black bears	368	0	0
1,580	wolves	1,580	0	0
270	ditto, damaged, and ſtags	123	15	0
40	woodſhock	22	6	0
10	mink	1	10	0
5	raccoon	0	16	0
120	ſquirrel	2	0	0
46,615	ſkins of all ſorts, ſold for	£. 18,226	0	0

He adds the following articles, but without their prices, viz.

Elk ſkins	130
Deer ſkins	440
Bed Feathers	3,170 pounds
Ditto, in a tick	220 ditto
Caſtorum	140 ditto
Whale-fins	470
Whale-oil	23 caſks
Weſaguipaka	8 pounds

And

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	£.	s.	d.
And in their March ſale, 40,125 beaver, worth — —	14,670	0	0
Undervalued goods, about — — —	400	0	0
Total amount of their ſales in the year 1743 £.	33,296	0	0

Upon this ſtate of this little company's ſales we may obſerve, that if their capital ſtock be but about one hundred thouſand pounds, and that thereon they had not for many years divided more than ten per cent. on that capital annually, and if this year's ſale be any rule to determine for other years, it will follow, that the company's annual expence for ſhipping, forts, garriſons, ſalaries, and home expence, may be about twenty thouſand pounds. So that although Mr. Dobbs has ſpared no pains to be maſter of this ſubject, yet after all, conſidering the riſques the company conſtantly runs, their gains are little to be envied.

Captain Middleton tells us, that the company has in all one hundred and twenty perſons, officers, ſoldiers, and ſervants, in their four forts in Hudſon's Bay; which forts are abſolutely requiſite for their people's preparing cargoes during winter, for the enſuing ſummer, againſt the arrival of their ſhips, as well as to protect their people from the attempts of the ſavages, and of wild beaſts. So that, if the company ſhould be diſſolved, as Mr. Dobbs propoſes, and the trade laid open, thoſe forts muſt be kept up by a rate or tax on the private traders; and, undoubtedly, the company muſt, in ſuch a caſe, have a compenſation for them: and as the company, through the means of theſe forts, by their long experience of the trade, and by ſome ſort of correſpondence with the ſavages, has raiſed and carried on a very beneficial commerce to the nation for many years; they might probably, and perhaps reaſonably hope, for a further compenſation on that account likewiſe. All things therefore being duly weighed, it may ſeem doubtful, whether it would be more eligible to diſſolve the company, in expectation, as Mr. Dobbs believes, of extending the trade much further when laid open, or to ſuffer this branch of our commerce to go on in its preſent channel; unleſs the ſo much deſired paſſage weſtward to the Aſiatic world could be found practicable; in which caſe, indeed, there may be found good reaſons for the taking thoſe forts into national management, and for erecting others in or near that ſuppoſed paſſage: concerning which paſſage, not only Mr. Dobbs, but even Captain Middleton, and others alſo, later than him, have deſcribed very plauſible appearances of a paſſage weſtward to, or communication with, the Sea of Japan. Yet, on the other hand, even ſuppoſing that communication to be certain, it may happen to be impracticable for ſhipping, either through its frozen ſituation, like Weygatz Streights, or from its being blocked up by rocks and ſmall iſlands; or, laſtly, it may be found too hazardous and impracticable to guard and keep the ſaid paſſage entirely to ourſelves alone, for reaſons ſufficiently obvious.

Should our nation be the diſcoverers of ſuch a practicable paſſage weſtward, it would, undoubtedly, open ſeveral new commercial ſcenes and opportunities, and would give us great advantages over other nations, not only in ſhortening the voyage to Japan and China, and even to India, properly ſo called, and to the adjacent iſles; but likewiſe in opening a commerce to us with the whole weſt ſide of North America, without rivals, where mines of the richer metals are known to abound, near and at New Mexico, California, &c. More fine-ſpun ſpeculations of this kind would rather amuſe than inform, and therefore we ſhall leave them, and return to more practicable matter.

A. D. 1743 Mr. Dobbs has given us a catalogue of Britiſh manufactures, &c. which the Hudſon's Bay Company exchange with the ſavages in that Bay: it ſeems that one beaver's ſkin is in that country the ſtandard medium of the whole trade. For inſtance,

For every pound weight of braſs kettles	one beaver.
For one pound and a half of gunpowder	one ditto.
For five pounds of lead ſhot	one ditto.
For ſix pounds of Braſil tobacco	one ditto.
For one yard of bays	one ditto.
For two combs	one ditto.
For two yards of gartering	one ditto.
For one pair of breeches	one ditto.
For one piſtol	one ditto.
For two hatchets	one ditto, &c.

The other ſkins and goods of the ſavages are, in all probability, valued alſo by this ſtandard of a beaver ſkin, although he has not ſhewn the proportions thereof.

Other goods uſually carried thither are, glaſs beads, black lead, ſugar, thread, vermillion, brandy, broad cloth, blankets, duffles, flannel, awl blades, buttons, fiſh hooks, fire ſteels, files, guns, flints, yarn, mittins, handkerchiefs, hats, hawks bells, knives, ice chiſſels, looking glaſſes, needles, net lines, rings for the fingers, runlets, ſword blades, ſpoons, ſhirts, ſhoes, ſtockings, ſaſhes, worſted, thimbles, tobacco boxes, tongs, trunks, twine, &c. Which ſhews, in ſome meaſure, that Mr. Dobbs's opinion may be right, that the enlarging of this trade, by extending it farther into the vaſt inland countries, ſouthward and ſouth-eaſt from the bay, might prove a national advantage. Yet whether thoſe countries be ſo fertile and ſo well inhabited, as he alleges, is at leaſt doubtful, until we can gain more certain intelligence thereof.

	£.	s.	d.
There was exported by the Hudſon's Bay Company, in value, in 1737	4,124	18	2
———— in 1738	3,879	17	11

Thus this diſpute between Mr. Dobbs and Captain Middleton has brought to light more particulars for illuſtrating this trade, than either the company would, probably, have readily done, or the public could have otherwiſe expected.

Mr. Dobbs has moreover given us alſo a catalogue of the peltry imported from Canada, or New France, into the port of Rochelle, for the year 1743, viz,

	Skins.
Beaver	127,080
Bear	16,512
Raccoon	110,000
Martin	30,325
Otter and Fiſher	12,428
Mink	1,700
Carried forward	298,045

Brought

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Brought over	289,045 ſkins.
Cat, fine — — — —	1,220
Wolf — — — —	1,267
Wolverin — — — —	92
Grey fox and cat — — —	10,280
Red fox — — — —	451
Total	311,355

In all, worth about one hundred and twenty thouſand pounds ſterling, according to the before-named valuation of the Hudſon's Bay peltry. But whether our being now in poſſeſſion of Canada may not lower the value of thoſe furs and peltry, we muſt leave to further experience.

Both Mr. Dobbs and Captain Middleton admit, that there is a good copper mine on the weſt ſide of Hudſon's Bay, not far from the coaſt, which might, probably, be brought to good account, were a fort built near it. It is on that weſt ſide where the company's chief forts and trade are leſs in danger of being annoyed by the French forts, (north of Canada, and which were much too near ours on the ſouth ſide of Hudſon's Bay) ſuch as our beſt and ſtrongeſt fort, named the Prince of Wales's Fort; from whence, in the year 1742, the company got twenty thouſand beavers ſkins;—that on Churchill River;—another, named York Fort, on Nelſon's River, (anciently called on our maps, Port Nelſon;)—another on New Severn River;—one on Albany River;—and one on Mooſe River, at the very ſouthern bottom of the Bay; where they keep themſelves cloſe both ſummer and winter for the moſt part, having no country plantations, and with only a kitchen garden, under the walls of their forts, wherein they raiſe a few herbs and greens. Whereas, ſays Mr. Dobbs, would the company ſettle and build forts higher up from the ſea, on the weſt and ſouth ſides of the Bay, where the froſts and cold are not near ſo intenſe, and where they will find a rich country, well wooded, with all manner of plants, herbs, &c. with plenty of graſs, rivers and lakes; or rather, were the trade laid open, and thoſe fine inland countries upon Rupert's, Mooſe, Albany, and Nelſon Rivers, ſettled by our people, we might regain the whole trade from the French, and ſupply the natives with woollen and iron wares, &c. which, he ſays, the company do not do; but, inſtead thereof, by their exorbitant rates, do enable the French from Canada to underſell them. He adds, with reſpect to this company, that eight or nine private merchants do ingroſs nine-tenth parts of the company's capital ſtock, whereby they are perpetual directors. Mr. Dobbs, for the greater corroboration of his opinion of the probability of a paſſage out of Hudſon's Bay into the South Seas, gives us an abſtract of De Fonté, the Vice Admiral of Peru's, voyage from Lima northward, on the weſt ſide of North America, as far as the Tartarian ſeas in ſeventy-ſeven degrees of north latitude, in the year 1640, by order of the King of Spain, who had advice of freſh attempts, in the year 1639, for a north weſt paſſage by certain navigators from New England; and that the ſaid Spaniſh Admiral had found in thoſe ſeas a ſhip from Boſton in New England, commanded by one Captain Shaply, who was told by that admiral, that his inſtructions were to make prize of any people ſeeking a north weſt paſſage into the South Sea; but, that, nevertheleſs, he would look upon them as merchants trading with the natives for beavers, &c. and ſo diſmiſſed him generouſly. Which account Mr. Dobbs thinks has all the appearance of being authentic, although it is plain, there are

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1743 ſeveral very improbable circumſtances therein; particularly that admiral's aſſerting, at the concluſion of his journal, that he found there was no paſſage into that ſea by what is called the north weſt paſſage, after he had related his finding the New England ſhip in the ſaid Tartarian Sea; which circumſtance, however, Mr. Dobbs has laboured to clear up. He thinks, that Boſton ſhip might have paſſed into the Tartarian Sea through ſome of the openings near Whale Cove, in trading for furs, and might have been afterward loſt, or elſe ſurprized by the Eſquimaux ſavages, upon her return home; ſeeing no account of this voyage was ever tranſmitted from Boſton: and that upon Sir Charles Wager's making inquiry, whether any of the name of Shaply had lived at that time in Boſton, it appeared from certain writings, that ſome of that name had then lived at Boſton; which, ſays Mr. Dobbs, adds to the weight of De Fonté's account, and confirms its being an authentic journal.

The following extracts from a well written octavo pamphlet, entitled, An Account of the Numbers of Men able to bear Arms in France, taken by the French King's Order, in the Year 1743; alſo of his Revenues and Expence, in 1741, 1742, and 1743; printed at London in the year 1744, about a month before our declaring war againſt France; may be hereafter uſeful in ſeveral reſpects, viz.

I. In the laſt years of King Louis XIII. in the year 1642, Cardinal Richlieu raiſed in revenue the ſum of one hundred and twenty-four millions four hundred and twenty-nine thouſand livres. But the preſent crown of ſix livres conſiſted then of only three livres.

	Livres.
II. The Comptroller General Deſmaret's Memoirs of the Finances of France, at the death of Louis XIV. at a medium of ſeven preceding years, was, per annum,	219,028,000
III. In the year 1734, there was raiſed	254,968,000
IV. In the year 1740, there was raiſed	204,881,000
V. In the year 1741, there was raiſed	243,503,000
France's expences exceeding this ſum by twenty millions.	
VI. In the year 1742, there was raiſed (partly to diſcharge the ſaid twenty millions and other debts.)	305,924,000
VII. In the year 1743, there was raiſed	232,000,000
	1,460,304,000

Medium of ſix years is two hundred and forty-three millions three hundred and eighty-four thouſand livres, or near eleven millions ſterling.

The judicious reader needs not to be informed, that the revenue of arbitrary governments is but another word for all that they thought fit to raiſe in ſuch reſpective times on their people.

I. Land forces of France, in May 1743, viz.

Regular troops, horſe and dragoons	37,164
Foot	182,600
Total regular forces	219,764
Militia	75,000
Invalids	9,296
Total land forces	304,060

II. And

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II. And France's ſeamen of all ſorts, viz.	Men.
Mariners, bombardiers, and marines, were, in this ſame year 1743,	42,440

The ſuburbs of London ſtill increaſing on every ſide, and particularly on the ſide of the hamlet of Bethnal Green, which at this time was increaſed to about one thouſand eight hundred houſes, and computed to have more than fifteen thouſand inhabitants, which is above eight perſons to each houſe, by reaſon they are moſtly manufacturers, and the meaner ſort of working people, many lodgers or inmates often crowding into one houſe; an act of Parliament was paſſed in this ſixteenth year of King George II. cap. xxviii. To make that Hamlet a ſeparate and diſtinct Pariſh from that of St. Dunſtan's, Stepney; and for erecting a Pariſh Church therein. Since known by the name of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green.

Buried, during the year 1743, at Dublin,	2,193	perſons.	Multiplied by 30 is	65,790
Chriſtened,	1,517		by 33 is more	6,579
By this rule the perſons in Dublin were			—	72,369

We are obliged to wiſh, we could depend on thoſe bills of mortality.

The Engliſh Eaſt India Company being diſpoſed to have an enlargement for fourteen years longer of their preſent excluſive trade and privileges, they, in conſideration thereof, agreed to advance one million of money for the public exigency, for the year 1744, at three per cent. intereſt. Which was accordingly confirmed by an act of Parliament of the ſeventeenth of King George II. cap. xvii. For granting to his Majeſty the Surplus or Remainder of the Monies ariſen or to ariſe by the Duties on Spirituous Liquors, granted, &c to commence from Michaelmas 1744. The ſaid company being for this end, hereby enabled to borrow money on their common ſeal, by creating a million of new bonds, at three per cent. intereſt. So that the entire debt thenceforth due by the public to this company was four millions two hundred thouſand pounds hereby declared to be redeemable, upon one year's notice after Lady-day 1745, by payments of not leſs than five hundred thouſand pounds at any one time. Yet, notwithſtanding ſuch redemption, this company ſhall continue to enjoy their excluſive commerce to the Eaſt Indies, not only for the term granted by former laws, but, in conſideration of this loan to the public, they ſhall have an addition of fourteen years to their preſent excluſive term, which will therefore hereby extend to three years notice to be given by Parliament after Lady-day 1780: and at the expiration of the ſaid three years, and re-payment of the above four millions two hundred thouſand pounds and all arrears of intereſt, then their title to an excluſive trade ſhall ceaſe and determine. Yet, after the ſaid determination, the company ſhall continue to have a common right with other ſubjects in and to the trade to India.

Thus the preſent condition of the Eaſt India Company is as follows, viz.

Due to them in their corporate capacity three millions two hundred thouſand pounds, at four per cent. being one hundred and twenty-eight thouſand pounds per annum. And one million of pounds at three per cent. being thirty thouſand pounds per annum.

1744 In our war with Spain we happened, about two years and an half before this time, to ſeize on and conquer the iſle of Rattan, in the Weſt Indian Seas, near the Bay of Honduras, belonging to that kingdom; and, in this year 1744, the Britiſh Parliament made an eſtimate and proviſion for the expence of a garriſon, fortifications, ſtores, &c. for it: it being then

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1744 thought extremely well ſituated for a trade between Jamaica and the Spaniſh Main. Yet, ſoon after, on a general peace, it was again relinquiſhed to Spain.

In certain extracts from a French treatiſe, Of Maritime affairs, or a Compariſon between the Commerce and Naval Power of England and France, with a View to ſome Paradoxes, by Monſieur Deſlandes; addreſſed to the Earl of Winchelſea, by Mr. Horſley; we have the following memoirs.

“ The annual revenues of France, ordinary and extraordinary, by the account of their “ own financiers, including Lorraine, do not amount to clear ſix millions ſterling; which “ is not equal to the natural revenue of England alone. They have out of this,

	£.
“ I. To pay the intereſt of ſeventy-five millions ſterling, remaining debt,” one hundred millions more being cancelled by Louis XIV. and the Duke of Orleans, Regent, “ which, at ſix per cent. is	4,500,000
“ II. The King's houſhold, and penſions to the princes of the blood, &c.	1,000,000
“ III. To the pay of two hundred thouſand land forces, at one ſhilling per “ day, including officers, &c.	3,650,000
“ IV. Garriſons, ſtores, &c.	1,500,000
“ V. For the regiſtered militia	500,000
“ VI. To forty thouſand ſeamen, &c.	1,500,000
“ VII. Intendants, port charges, building and repairs of ſhips, &c.	200,000
“ VIII. Ambaſſadors, ſubſidies to foreign princes, ſpies, &c.	2,000,000
“ Total annual expence	14,850,000
“ France's clear revenue,” according to this author,	6,000,000
“ Annual debt created by France	8,850,000

On the other hand, the before-named author preſents us with the annual expences of Great Britain, viz.

	£.
“ I. The intereſt of our,” then, “ public debts	2,000,000
“ II. Forty thouſand ſeamen, including ſtores, &c.	2,080,000
“ III. Forty thouſand land forces, and contingencies	1,200,000
“ IV. Ordinary of the navy	1,200,000
“ V. Guards and garriſons	500,000
“ VI. Subſidies and extra charges	600,000
“ VII. Civil liſt	800,000
“ Total annual expence of Great Britain	7,300,000

The French having, as already related, conſiderably gained upon England in their trade to the ports in the Levant Seas, not merely by the greater nearneſs of the voyage thither from Marſeilles than from the port of London, but likewiſe by their judiciouſly ſtudying the manufacturing of ſuch kinds of ſlight, though fine-looking, woollen cloths as may beſt ſuit their climate; which they can afford to ſell at a cheaper rate than that of our more ſubſtantial and really finer drapery; beſide their ſupplying the Turks alſo cheaper than we can with great

A. D. 1744 quantities of ſugar, indigo, &c. It was at this time much canvaſſed without doors, in converſation, pamphlets, and newſpapers, whether the ſhorteſt way for England's regaining the aſcendant in that very important branch of commerce, would not be to lay the Turkey trade entirely open to all Britiſh ſubjects. This went ſo far with many, that a bill was brought into Parliament, For enlarging and regulating the Trade to the Levant Seas; hoping, that by the number of traders, in an open trade, they ſhould be enabled to underſell the French, and recover the ground which they had gradually loſt. But our Turkey or Levant Company being heard at the bar of the Houſe, gave thereby, and by their printed caſe, ſuch convincing reaſons againſt the bill, that it was at length dropped. The company readily admitted that their trade was much decayed; but they alleged in ſubſtance the following genuine grounds of and for that declenſion, viz.

" That during the moſt flouriſhing periods of their trade, it was principally carried on with " a coarſe kind of cloth, made entirely of Engliſh wool, in which no other nation could vie " with them. But the French, after the treaty of Pyrenees, enjoying a long courſe of proſ" perity, turned their views very much to foreign commerce, and particularly to that of the " Levant, which the great Colbert puſhed forward at a vaſt public expence; until, at length, " the cloth manufacture of Languedoc, made of two-thirds Spaniſh wool and one-third of the " wool of that province, could be afforded at ſo low a price in Turkey as the Engliſh could " afford to ſell a coarſer cloath, made all of their own wool, not worth above nine-pence " per pound weight. That this ſuperiority of the material, and alſo that of the finer ſpin" ning, made a more ſhowy cloth; which, though ſlighter, found its vent in a warmer " climate.

" That, moreover, the French make cloths of all Spaniſh wool for the Turkey markets, " which they ſell cheaper than ours, although ours be more ſubſtantial. And although there " are Engliſh cloths made of a mixture of Engliſh and Spaniſh wool, yet the French cloth of " that ſort happens to be much cheaper. That the French, by this acquired advantage of " Spaniſh wool, have got the better of the before-named natural one which we long enjoyed; " and that our clothiers are not able to make ſuch a cloth to ſuit the Turks, ſo cheap as the " French can and do afford theirs before-mentioned. That, moreover, the French have in" creaſed their trade to Turkey by carrying thither indigo and coffee in great quantities, " which we have not, as alſo ſugar, which they ſell much cheaper than we can do.

" The wars of the great Peter, Czar of Ruſſia, againſt Perſia, having obſtructed the bringing " of Sherbaff ſilk from the province of Ghilaun, through Turkey, the Engliſh, before that " period, uſually bought at Aleppo and Smyrna at leaſt one thouſand bales, one year with " another, worth about one hundred pounds each bale, and chiefly in barter againſt our cloth; " a great part whereof the ſilk merchants carried back into Perſia, ſo that little or no ſilk " comes now that way; and indeed it is now permitted to be brought through Ruſſia, as is " rhubarb (once a good article of return, but now become a monopoly in the hands " of that court). And that, although that province has been reſtored to Perſia, yet the " wars which have ſince been in thoſe provinces, have ſo interrupted the commerce, that it is " now much diverted into the other before-named channel through Ruſſia. That there is a " decreaſe of one half, at leaſt, in the conſumption of ſundry drugs, as well as in galls, goat's" wool, and mohair-yarn, occaſioned by the change of faſhions. That the great increaſe of " Italian and Spaniſh raw-ſilk alſo leſſens the vent for Turkey raw-ſilk; although thoſe ſilks

A. D. 1744 “ are bought with ready money, whereas the Turkiſh raw-ſilk is taken in return for the Britiſh manufactures ſold there.

“ That the company, confiding in the royal charters and privileges, have conſtantly carried on a very conſiderable commerce to Turkey, whither they annually export large quantities of woollen and other manufactures, &c. and bring back great quantities of raw ſilk, mohair-yarn, &c. for the uſe of our home manufactures: and are at very great expence in ſupporting the charge of an ambaſſador at Conſtantinople, and of conſuls in other parts of Turkey; as alſo in obtaining and renewing the needful capitulations with the Ottoman Port, and alſo in making conſiderable ſettlements at Conſtantinople, Aleppo, Smyrna, &c. And that they apprehend this bill will deprive them of thoſe privileges ſo dearly purchaſed; if it does not likewiſe occaſion the total loſs of the trade.”

It ſeems the jews were very active in promoting this bill, which afforded the company and their friends within doors an occaſion to explain to the Parliament and people how probable it was, that they would (by being admitted, as was by many intended, into this trade when laid open) engroſs the entire Levant trade, in conjunction with their own people in Turkey, who are the agents for the great men there, and the general brokers for merchants; and who, by combination amongſt themſelves, govern, in a great degree, the ſale of merchandize. For which, and other reaſons before named, it was judged fit to drop this bill.

This brief account will let gentlemen and others, who were before ignorant of the nature of this trade, in a great meaſure into at leaſt a general idea of it; which indeed is as much as perſons unacquainted with the practice of that particular branch of commerce can reaſonably deſire to know.

We ſhall cloſe this year 1744, with a ſummary view of the then ſtate of the ſtock and funds of the Bank of England, viz.

		£.
I.	The original capital doubled, and reduced to three per cent. intereſt, is	3,200,000
II.	For cancelling of Exchequer Bills, 3tio Geo. Primi. at four per cent.	500,000
III.	Purchaſed, in the year 1722, of the South Sea Company, at four per cent.	4,000,000
IV.	Annuities charged on the ſurplus of the funds of Lottery 1714, at four per cent.	1,250,000
V.	Annuities at four per cent. charged on the duty on coals ſince Lady Day 1710,	1,750,000
	Total Bank capital — — —	10,700,000

Beſide the ſeveral three per cent. lottery annuities, transferable at the Bank, *i. e.* of the year 1731, being eight hundred thouſand pounds,—of the year 1742, being alſo eight hundred thouſand pounds,—of the year 1743, being one million eight hundred thouſand pounds,—and the like ſum of the year 1744, or one million eight hundred thouſand pounds. All which four laſt named ſums are quite ſeparate and diſtinct from what is known by the name of the capital ſtock of the Bank aforeſaid, the ſaid four ſums being entitled to their reſpective annuities alone, without any other profit whatever; whereas the ſaid capital ſtock of ten millions ſeven hundred thouſand pounds was entitled to all the benefits of that company's banking, in the largeſt ſenſe of that word.

We are here, however, to obſerve, that although the ſame principal ſum of ten millions ſeven hundred thouſand pounds was actually due from the public to the Bank, yet the transferable capital in the Bank books, as divided amongſt all their proprietors, was really but nine millions

A. D. 1744. millions eight hundred thouſand pounds Bank-ſtock; there being the ſum of nine hundred thouſand pounds undivided capital remaining in that company's corporate capacity: by the intereſt whereof, and their profits by banking, *i. e.* by all the advantages the Bank can make, either by circulating of the government's Exchequer-bills, and by other dealings with the public—by what they make by diſcounting of merchants bills of exchange—by dealing in foreign bullion—and, laſtly, by their employing of ſo much of the caſh of their circulating notes as is not judged abſolutely requiſite to remain in bank, for anſwering all the demands of thoſe notes) that prudent and moſt uſeful corporation was enabled to make at this time an annual dividend of five and a half per cent. on their ſaid transferable capital of nine millions eight hundred thouſand pounds.

	£.
Now the annual intereſt paid to them from the public on three millions two hundred thouſand pounds at four per cent. is — —	96,000
And on ſeven million five hundred thouſand pounds at four per cent. is	300,000
Total of the Bank's intereſt from the public: — —	396,000
But, as the Bank of England has for ſeveral years paſt divided five and a half per cent. yearly to the proprietors of the ſaid nine millions eight hundred thouſand pounds, being — — —	539,000
By deducting the ſaid yearly intereſt received from the public, being —	396,000
There remains the annual profits of the ſaid nine hundred thouſand pounds their undivided capital, and all their other various profits by banking, as aforeſaid, amounting together to per annum — — —	143,000
Now, if the intereſt paid by the government for the nine hundred thouſand pounds undivided capital, at four per cent. be deducted, being —	36,000
Then the clear annual profits of the Bank, by their money concerns with the public, and by all their other certainly known banking concerns, will be	107,000
Deduct thereout, ſuppoſe, for houſe-expence of all kinds, as ſalaries, &c.	17,000
And there will remain then of the known annual profit by mere banking	90,000

Laſtly, Some might poſſibly indeed be ſo very inquiſitive as to form conjectures, (for they can be no other) concerning the proportion which the quantum of ready caſh always neceſſary to be reſerved in this or any other public or private bank, for the circulation of all their caſh-notes and credit of accounts in a bank bears, or ſhould bear to the total amount of thoſe caſh-notes and credit; and which is the ultimate article in all banking buſineſs, and probably alſo the moſt conſiderable one, more eſpecially with reſpect to our London private bankers, though at the ſame time an extremely caſual and uncertain one: nevertheleſs, as this laſt-mentioned point may be properly termed the fair and reaſonable myſtery or ſecret of all banking, we can ſee no benefit which can ariſe by any ſuch minute enquiries, to the generality of men; neither do we apprehend them proper to be enquired into at all, without there ſhould ariſe any reaſonable ſuſpicion for fraud. For, as it has been a political obſervation of long ſtanding, That even the reputation of great and powerful monarchies and ſtates often ſubſiſts more by com-

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1744 mon fame or opinion than by real ſtrength or ability, *Magis Fama quam Vi.* So it may more ſtrictly and properly be applicable to a bank and bankers; of which we had a moſt pregnant inſtance a few years ago, at the breaking up and dividing the profits of an eminent partnerſhip of a private bank in the city of London, which for many years had cleared or divided ſeveral thouſand pounds yearly for the partnerſhip; when, upon valuing or appraiſing all the real ſtock of the partnerſhip before the higheſt judge of Great Britain, it appeared even to that great man's amazement, that the whole did not amount to above three or four hundred pounds, conſiſting entirely of ſhop implements, and certain houſhold furniture, &c.

Perhaps this obſervation may, in ſome reſpects, be extended to moſt of the great commercial as well as banking ſocieties of the world; whoſe internal condition, circumſtances, and profits, may not be by any means proper to be too narrowly pried into, ſo long as they, to all appearances, are proſperous and punctual in all their affairs; although, like a private merchant, their circumſtances may not be alike proſperous at all times.

1745 Our author having read in John Ker of Kerſland's Memoirs, That the city of Hamburg had no fewer than five thouſand ſhips and boats belonging to it; that looſe way of deſcribing its naval commerce not giving him ſufficient ſatisfaction, he applied, in the year 1745, to a Hamburg broker or agent, then reſiding at London, concerning the truth thereof: who freely acknowledged, "That of all the boats on the river Elbe belonging to Hamburg, and the vaſt "number of veſſels which that opulent city conſtantly employed in carrying of merchandize "up and down that large river to and from the counties of Mecklenburg, Pomerania, Saxony, Brandenburg, Bohemia, Sileſia, &c. were to be taken into the account, he knew not "whether there might not be ſo many of all kinds: but that the number of real ſhips trading "on the ocean and belonging to Hamburgh were not above three hundred; whereof one hundred and fifty conſiſted of from each two hundred tons to upwards of five hundred tons "burden; twenty-ſeven of which ſhips were then actually lying in the river Thames. And "And that the remaining one hundred and fifty were what is uſually called ſmall craft or "coaſters, trading principally to Holland. Beſide which," added he, "they had three "ſhips of war for the protection of their commerce from the Barbary rovers, which they keep "conſtantly in their pay, viz. two of forty to fifty guns each, and the third a ſmaller frigate." This account, ſeemingly a probable one, gives an high idea of the extenſive commerce and numerous ſhipping of that city.

The diſcovery of a north-weſt paſſage to the ſeas of Japan and China, continuing to be much the ſubject of converſation at London and other parts of Great Britain, an Act of Parliament paſſed in this eighteenth year of King George II. cap. xvii. For granting a public Reward to ſuch Perſon or Perſons, his Majeſty's Subject or Subjects, as ſhall diſcover a North-weſt Paſſage through Hudſon's Streights to the Weſtern and Southern Ocean of America, whereby it was enacted,

"That if any ſhip of his Majeſty's ſubjects ſhall find out and ſail through any paſſage by "ſea between Hudſon's Bay and the weſtern and ſouthern ocean of America, the owner, or "his aſſigns, ſhall receive a reward of twenty thouſand pounds. The commiſſioners for determining this diſcovery are therein named, being the great officers of ſtate, and of the "Treaſury, admirals, &c. Provided, however, that nothing in this act ſhall any ways extend to the prejudice of any part of the eſtate, rights, or privileges belonging to the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudſon's Bay."

2 To

A. D. 1745 To prevent the frauds committed in counterfeiting the ſtamps put on Britiſh and Iriſh linen, in order for receiving the bounty allowed on their exportation, a ſtatute paſſed this ſame year, " For effectually preventing the Exportation of foreign Linens, under the Denomination of Britiſh or Iriſh linens."—cap. xxiv. By which ſeveral good regulations were made for preventing the counterfeiting the ſaid ſtamps, &c.

And by the next following ſtatute, cap. xxv. For allowing certain additional Bounties on the Exportation of Britiſh and Iriſh Linens, it was enacted, " That whereas the Linen Ma-" nufactures of Britain and Ireland are of late years greatly improved and increaſed; where-" by the price of linens, as well of foreign as of home fabric, hath been conſiderably re-" duced—a further bounty on their exportation was hereby enacted, of one halfpenny per " yard on linen of the value of five-pence, and not exceeding twelve pence per yard; and of " three half-pence per yard for linen from above twelve pence to one ſhilling and ſix pence " per yard;" with ſeveral other regulations for preventing of frauds, &c. Which ſtatute, it is hoped, will in time produce great and good conſequences for the increaſe of our own and diſcouraging of foreign linens, for which ſuch great ſums are and have ſo long been paid, for ſupplying of the Britiſh, African, and American trades, and all our other exportations of linens; whereby our own people will be employed, and the money kept at home, ſo long paid to Germany, Pruſſia, and Ruſſia, for the ſame.

As the ſtatute of the ſaid eighteenth year of King George II. cap. xxvi. For repealing the preſent inland Duty of Four Shillings per Pound Weight upon all Tea ſold in Great Britain, and for granting to his Majeſty certain other inland Duties in lieu thereof, &c. relates only to the alterations thereby made in the manner of collecting the duty on that commodity thereafter; we ſhall take no further notice of it, than merely to remark, that it is hereby enacted and provided, " that if at any time the Britiſh Eaſt India Company ſhall neglect to keep the " London market ſupplied with a ſufficient quantity of tea at reaſonable prices, to anſwer the " conſumption thereof in Great Britain, the Board of Treaſury may grant licences to any " other perſon or perſons, bodies politic or corporate, to import teas into Great Bri-" tain, from any part of Europe,—ſubject to the like duties, reſtrictions, and limitations, " &c. as herein before preſcribed, with reſpect to tea to be imported by the ſaid Eaſt India " Company from any part of Europe, &c."

It being evidently for the advantage of Great Britain, and particularly for the further promoting of her own linen manufactures and thoſe of Ireland, that the wearing of foreign cambricks and French lawns ſhould not be permitted; a ſtatute of this ſame eighteenth year of King George the Second, cap. xxxvi. For prohibiting the wearing and importation of cambricks and French Lawns, enacted, " That it ſhall not be lawful for any perſon in Great Bri-" tain to wear any cambrick or French Lawn, under the penalty of five pounds, and the like " penalty on the ſellers thereof, &c." If this law was ſeriouſly attended to be executed, as its title and preamble ſeem to import, there is reaſon to apprehend it has not fully anſwered the intention thereof: neither, perhaps, has a ſubſequent ſhort act, of the twenty-firſt year of this reign, cap. xxvi. for explaining, amending, and enforcing the ſame; by further extending the penalties to the venders, and alſo to the milliners making up ſuch cambricks.

Great Britain being at war with France, her province of New England alone, aſſiſted by the King's ſhips of war, were, in this ſame year 1745, able to raiſe a ſufficient land-force to beſiege and take the town, forts, and port of Louiſbourg, and the reſt of the iſle of Cape Breton

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1735 ton, which had been ſhamefully yielded to France by the treaty of Utrecht. Thoſe forces conſiſted of four thouſand and ſeventy men, excluſive of commiſſion officers, viz.

	Men.
By the Maſſachuſett's Bay	3,250
By New Hampſhire	304
By Connecticut	516
	4,070

Beſide the armed ſloops and ſailors belonging to thoſe colonies, and to that of Rhode Iſland. "The importance of Cape Breton is now well underſtood," ſays Sir William Pepperell, commander of thoſe forces, in his Journal of its Siege, "or rather of the iſlands of Madam and Cape Breton, which are ſo contiguous, that they are by moſt people ſuppoſed to be but one iſland, by the name of Cape Breton. It extends from the gut of Canſo, or Canceſſo, the eaſtern boundary of Nova Scotia, eaſt-north-eaſt about thirty-four leagues, and is what helps to form the Gulph of St. Laurence;—which gulph is full of commodious bays, havens, iſlands, rivers, and, at all ſeaſons of the year, has great plenty of cod-fiſh; and, at particular ſeaſons of the year, has herrings, mackrel, &c. for bait: but the ice in winter renders its navigation unſafe, if not altogether impracticable, at leaſt to make voyages for fiſh; though in the ſummer ſeaſon there have been yearly fiſheries carried on at Gaſpay, at the entrance of Canada River, and in the little harbours from thence to Bayverte, at the iſlands of St. John and Magdalene,—at and through the gut of Canſo;—and thence along the ſhore," (to many other places therein named) "and from Gaſpay round the north ſide of the gulph at the ſeveral convenient ports on the main, quite to the ſtreights of Belle-Iſle. And, by an allowance to the French in the treaty of Utrecht, which they have made the moſt of, in all the harbours at the northward of Newfoundland, that were unemployed by the Engliſh. And although, comparatively ſpeaking, there was but a ſmall number of their ſhips that fiſhed at Cape Breton itſelf, yet the ſituation of that iſle is ſuch, that they could all of them at pleaſure repair thither on any emergency or danger; eſpecially thoſe that fiſhed in the gulph, on the main, or thoſe at the north-weſt of Newfoundland, who were all within one or two days ſail at moſt; and alſo thoſe ſhips that laded with mud-fiſh on the Banks. So that this iſland of Cape Breton was the key and protection of their whole fiſhery; and for that end it was fortified and garriſoned, and valued by France equal to any other of its colonies; although the harbour of Louiſbourg is not an extraordinary good one, and that the iſland produces nothing either for food or raiment;" (this is in part contradicted by-and-by) "ſo that the ſituation and convenience of this place, being, as it were, the center of their whole fiſhery, and a cover and command to the whole gulph, was the greateſt inducement to France to fortify it. What other uſes it might ſerve for, as a port, to the Eaſt and Weſt India ſhips, and to thoſe bound to Canada, on occaſion to reſort to for wood and water,—to clean or repair, &c not being ſo much in their view as the ſecuring and upholding the fiſhery.—Their conviction of the growing profits of the fiſhery there, and the hopes of, one time or other, monopolizing it, made them take ſuch indefatigable and indirect means, the laſt war," (*i. e.* of Queen Anne) "to procure a neutrality, ſo far as re-

" lated

A. D. 1745 "lated to the fiſhery, which they obtained by dint of money; and on the peace, in order to ſecure it to them for the future, ſtuck at no terms to obtain this iſland, which they had no ſooner effected, but they immediately ſettled it with a new colony of fiſhermen only.—And a fiſhery flouriſhed here ſo faſt, that they could and did afford to underſell us at foreign markets. And for the protection of the trade ſo to do, they had annual ſhips of war ſent from France to viſit and ſupply them, with orders to protect and defend not only their ſea-coaſt, but their veſſels on the Banks of Newfoundland, &c. and alſo to make and keep their pretenſions good to the ſeveral banks, within or without their line; and to make themſelves a privilege, as it were, of fiſhing almoſt where they pleaſed, by force of cuſtom: in which they gradually increaſed, ſo that, in the year 1732, two of their men of war were ordered on that ſtation, to cruiſe on the Banks,—to examine into the ſtate of the fiſhery,—and to give them any neceſſary aſſiſtance and protection,—and to go from thence to Canada, and ſo back to the fiſhery again, and thence to convoy thoſe ſhips that had made their voyages, and were ready to depart for Europe.

"The Marquis de la Maiſon Forte," continues Sir William Pepperell, "in his journal, thus remarks,—Louiſbourg is a good port and a ſafe harbour.—More than one hundred veſſels from France arrive there every year to fiſh, and make fiſh, (*i. e.* to cure them) of the cod which they catch in the ſmall craft of the country, and are after put into larger veſſels, where they ſalt them and dry them, from the beginning of June till October, when they get ready to depart, each for his aſſigned port.

"This iſland alſo produces ſome grain; but though there are more than four thouſand inhabitants, they find their account much better in fiſhing than in huſbandry, and conſequently the lands lie waſte; as they procure all neceſſaries in exchange for their fiſh."

Our author proceeds to illuſtrate the magnitude and profits of the fiſhery of the French in thoſe ſeas, viz.

	Quintals.	*Men.*
"I. From the Gut of Canſo, down along the ſhore to Louiſbourg, and from thence to the north-eaſt part of Cape Breton, there were annually employed at leaſt five hundred ſhallops, each of which required at ſea and on ſhore at leaſt five men; in all — — — —		2,500
"II. Sixty brigantines, ſchooners, and ſloops, with each fifteen men —		900
Total men employed		3,400
"III. Each of the ſaid five hundred ſhallops catch three hundred quintals of fiſh in the ſummer ſeaſon; in all — —	150,000	
"IV. And each of the brigantines, ſchooners, and ſloops, catch ſix hundred quintals — — — —	36,000	
"Total quintals of fiſh annually made at Cape Breton	186,000	
Carry forward men employed		3,400

Brought forward men employed 3,400

“ V. Now to carry this fiſh to Europe, there muſt be employed ninety-three ſhips, of the burden of two thouſand quintals each, and each ſhip has twenty ſailors; in all — — — — 1,860

“ Total men employed in the fiſhery of Cape Breton 5,260

“ VI. At Gaſpay, Quadre, and other harbours, mentioned in the following eſtimate, there are ſix ſhips yearly; which as they come out from France, manned to catch their own cargoes in ſhallops, which they haul up, and leave in the country every winter, till they return in the next ſpring; theſe may, one with another, be allowed ſixty hands. And it has always been allowed, from St. Maloes and Granville, that they have at leaſt three hundred ſail of thoſe ſhips in this fiſhery, that fiſh at Petit-nord, Fichance, Belle-iſle, and the Gulph; which, all being computed as above, and allowing thoſe ſhips that ſo come out to make their own voyage to carry each three thouſand quintals, will be as follows, viz.

	Ships.	*Men.*	*Quintals.*
At Cape Breton	93	5,260	186,000
— Gaſpay	6	360	18,000
— Quadre	6	360	18,000
— Porte en Baſque	6	360	18,000
— Les Foils Iſles	3	180	9,000
— St. Maloes, &c.	300	18,000	900,000
Total	414	24,520	1,149,000

“ There go alſo ſhips from St. Jean de Luz, Bayonne, Nantes, and Havre de Grace; and beſide all theſe, there have been conſtantly from the rivers Sindic, Olune, Poiteux, Havre, &c. one hundred and fifty ſhips, the French ſay two hundred ſail, employed in the mud fiſhery, or *Mort-veſt* as they call it, from ſixteen to twenty-four men each; which carry home from twenty-two thouſand to thirty thouſand fiſh each. So, on the moſt moderate computation, one hundred and fifty ſail of ſhips with twenty men each, is three thouſand men; and by tale, three million nine hundred thouſand fiſh in all.

“ In regard to the value of this branch of trade, it is neceſſary to obſerve, that it alſo produces a large quantity of train-oil, viz. a hogſhead of ſixty gallons of oil out of every hundred quintals of fiſh, and this, out of the whole quantity before-named, will produce eleven thouſand four hundred and ninety hogſheads of oil. And, allowing that four thouſand fiſh, in number, are equal to one hundred quintals when cured, then the three million nine hundred thouſand mud-fiſh, by the ſame rule, will yield nine hundred and ſeventy-five hogſheads of oil; which makes, in all, twelve thouſand four hundred and ſixty-five hogſheads of oil.

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	£.	s.	d.
“ Now let the one million one hundred and forty-nine thouſand quintals of fiſh be valued at only ten ſhillings ſterling per quintal, (the prime coſt uſually at Newfoundland) and then it is worth —	574,500	0	0
“ And to this allow three ſhillings ſterling per quintal, for freight, in Engliſh bottoms, to market — — —	172,350	0	0
“ And then the fiſh alone is worth — —	746,850	0	0
“ And let the twelve thouſand four hundred and ſixty-five hogſheads, or three thouſand one hundred and ſixteen tons and a quarter, of oil be valued at eighteen pounds ſterling per ton — —	56,092	10	0
“ And as for the mud-fiſh, they are generally ſold in France at one thouſand livres for one thouſand fiſh; and then at eleven pence ſterling per livre, their value is — — —	178,750	0	0
“ And thus it appears, that one year's fiſhery of the French, is worth	981,692	10	0

“ Which great branch of trade, in a manner, depends entirely on their poſſeſſion of the iſland of Cape Breton, as it is impoſſible to carry it on without ſome convenient harbour of ſtrength, &c.

“ In addition to this, in regard to the woollen manufacture: every man employed in this fiſhery conſuming in his back and bed-clothes the value of thirty ſhillings ſterling therein yearly, is forty-one thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds ſterling. Add alſo hereto, the canvas, cordage, hooks, lines, twine, nets, lead, nails, ſpikes, edge tools, graplins, anchors, which five hundred and ſixty-four ſhips and ſhallops muſt expend at ſea and on ſhore; and allow all theſe to be Britiſh, and that Britain could keep it all to herſelf, and the value will be found of greater conſequence than any other trade dependent on our plantations, not even excepting the tobacco trade.

“ Firſt, In regard to the raiſing of ſeamen for the royal navy.

“ Secondly, In the conſumption of Britiſh manufactures and product: And,

“ Thirdly, and above all, In a certain annual remittance of the balance of this trade from Spain, Portugal, Italy, and other parts.”

To all theſe advantages our author has forgot to add two very conſiderable ones, viz.

I. The great number of perſons employed in building, and of trades in fitting out thoſe veſſels. And,

II. The additional benefit to our landed intereſt, by the victualling of them.

“ So that, all things duly conſidered, this acquiſition of Cape Breton, is, of itſelf, a ſufficient compenſation for the war.—Moreover, by this conqueſt, France has not any one ſea-port for the relief of their trading ſhips, either from the Eaſt or the Weſt Indies, open to them any-where in North America to the northward of the river Miſſiſippi: for Canada is not to be looked upon as an open port to the ſea, it being impracticable to go thither for ſhelter, as being ſixty or ſeventy leagues within land, through the gulph, to the mouth of the river; and then a great way farther up the river.—And even as to Canada itſelf, the river is now ſo much under our command, as well as the gulph, that all trade, and even communication there, may be very eaſily ſtopped by our ſhips from Cape Breton: ſo that,

“ without

1745 “ without force of arms, in a very few years, that colony would fall, and the whole trade for furs carried on with the Indians there, come into Engliſh hands. And a happier conſequence ſtill is, that hereby the French in Canada may not be kept from ſupplying the Indians, but alſo from encouraging them to annoy our frontiers: ſo that thoſe Indians muſt become dependent on us.—By this acquiſition, likewiſe, we have ſecured to the nation the garriſon of Annapolis Royal, and the colony of Nova Scotia; which country being a very rich and fertile ſoil, and its coaſts and rivers abounding with fiſh, and ſettled with French Catholics, that nation has much regretted the loſs of, and wanted to recover.—Our holding of Cape Breton will alſo keep thoſe French inhabitants of Nova Scotia in ſtrict allegiance to his Majeſty, or elſe oblige them to quit their poſſeſſions, which are all farms brought to perfection, and fit for any ſervice immediately. Had we not taken Cape Breton this year, and the French had taken Annapolis, the conſequence would then have been, that all the inhabitants of Nova Scotia would have declared for France immediately; and the colony would have been at once the French King's: whereby all the Cape Sable and St. John's Indians, who aſſiſted France laſt year at the ſiege of Annapolis, together with thoſe of Canada, would have been let looſe upon our frontiers.”

This account of the vaſt value of Cape Breton, written by one living altogether in its neighbourhood, and who was knighted for the ſucceſsful part he acted in the reducing of it to his Britannic Majeſty's obedience, is, in general extremely correct; not being like the vague and romantic reports of unſkilful writers, but the faithful narration of one who was every way qualified for, and equal to the taſk: he died in the year 1759, much about the time that it was again taken from France. And as this narrative is ſo copious, and at the ſame time ſo authentic, when we come to treat of its being re-taken in the year 1759, we need only then refer our readers to this ſurvey of its benefits to us; or, at leaſt, of the immenſe damage which our poſſeſſion of that place, and the demolition of Louiſbourg, will undoubtedly bring to the fiſhery of the port towns of France, and to their general commerce, navigation, and manufactures.

1746 To balance the before-mentioned great loſs of the French in our taking of Cape Breton, they, in the following year 1746, took from our Engliſh Eaſt India Company their moſt important fort and town of Fort St. George on the Coromandel Coaſt, with the adjoining Black Town of Madras; wherein they found no inconſiderable quantity of wealth, merchandize, and treaſure: they alſo captured one of that company's capital ſhips. This diſaſter obliged us in the treaty of peace in the year 1748, to reſtore Cape Breton to France, as the latter did Fort St. George to our company.

On the fifth of July 1746, his Britannic Majeſty's charter paſſed, for erecting the Britiſh Linen Company. By which a number of Peers, and eminent Gentlemen and Merchants, were incorporated, “ with a capital ſtock, not at firſt to exceed one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling; but may be further increaſed, from time to time, as their affairs ſhall require, to any limited ſum, by his Majeſty's ſign manual. Their ordinary affairs to be conducted by a governor, deputy-governor, and five directors. Their firſt governor was his Grace Archibald Duke of Argyle:” (the great promoter of this charter). “ The company's principal reſidence to be at Edinburgh.” One of the principal intentions of this company being to ſupply the Britiſh merchants trading to Africa and the American Plantations, with the like kinds of linen cloth as they were before obliged to purchaſe of foreign nations. Whereby it is to be hoped that much money will be ſaved to the nation, which till now has been carried abroad

A. D. 1746 abroad for thoſe goods. A moſt worthy and truly-ſpirited deſign, which there is good ground to hope, will, in due time, fully anſwer expectation. The two before-quoted acts of Parliament of the preceding year 1745, the eighteenth of King George II. cap. xxiv. and xxv. were principally calculated to further this moſt laudable purpoſe.

By a Britiſh ſtatute of this nineteenth year of King George the Second, cap. vi. For eſtabliſhing an Agreement with the Bank of England, &c. "The ſaid Bank agreed to deliver up "to the Treaſury, nine hundred and eighty-ſix thouſand eight hundred pounds in Exchequer "Bills; in lieu of which they were to have an annuity of four per cent. for that ſum, out of "the fund for licenſing of ſpirituous liquors. And the Bank were hereby impowered to add the "ſaid nine hundred and eighty-ſix thouſand eight hundred pounds to their capital ſtock, taking in ſubſcriptions for that end."

	£.
So that at Michaelmas. 1746, the whole debt due to the Bank from the public, was — — —	11,686,800
But the Bank now hold thereof, in their corporate capacity, the undivided ſum of — — —	906,800
And the laſt ſum being deducted, there remained of transferable capital, divided amongſt all the proprietors, only — —	10,780,000

It being too common for commanders and mariners of Britiſh ſhips, lying in havens, rivers, ports, &c. to throw out their ballaſt on the ſhore or ſide, below the uſual full ſea-mark, to the great detriment and filling up of thoſe havens, ports, rivers, &c. a law was paſſed in this nineteenth year of King George the Second, cap. xiii. prohibiting the throwing out thereof, or of any filth, rubbiſh, gravel, &c. but only on the land or ground where the tide never flows; under the penalty of at leaſt fifty ſhillings, and not exceeding five pounds for every offence. And ſhips or veſſels ſunk or ſtranded in any ſuch port, haven, or river, ſhall be forthwith weighed up and removed by order of the magiſtrates. This act (For the better Preſervation of Havens, Roads, Channels, and navigable Rivers) extended only to that part of Great Britain called England.

The manufacture of ſail-cloth for ſhipping had been long improving in Great Britain, and had been encouraged by ſeveral acts of Parliament; particularly by that of the ninth year of King George the Second, and another of the thirteenth of his ſaid Majeſty; whereby all foreign made canvas or ſail-cloth imported, uſually entered by the name of Holland's Duck, or Vitry Canvas, fit for ſhip's ſails, and for which duties are payable, ſhould be ſtamped as ſuch, on its importation, to prevent its paſſing for Britiſh made ſail-cloth; and if found unſtamped to be forfeited, and the importer of it to forfeit fifty pounds; all which was now confirmed by an act of Parliament of the nineteenth of the ſaid King, cap. xxvii. And that every ſhip or veſſel which ſhall be built in Great Britain, and in his Majeſty's plantations in America, ſhall, upon her firſt ſetting out, or being firſt navigated, have, or be furniſhed with one full and complete ſet of new ſails, made of ſail-cloth manufactured in Great Britain, under the penalty of fifty pounds on the maſter of the ſhip or veſſel. And every ſail-maker in Britain or the plantations ſhall, on every new ſail, affix or impreſs, in letters and words at length, a ſtamp of eight inches diameter, whereon his name and place of abode ſhall plainly appear, under

1746 under the penalty of ten pounds. All which particular clauſes were hereby to continue in force for ſeven years longer.

" It being found by experience, that the cuſtom in England of making aſſurances, intereſt " or no intereſt, or without further proof of intereſt than the policy, hath been productive " of many pernicious practices; whereby great numbers of ſhips with their cargoes have been " either fraudulently loſt or deſtroyed, or taken by the enemy in time of war: and that ſuch " aſſurances have encouraged the exportation of wool, and the carrying on of many other " prohibited and clandeſtine trades, &c." So ſays the preamble to a ſtatute of this nineteenth year of King George the Second, cap. xxxvii.—It was therefore now enacted, " That no " aſſurance ſhall be made on any ſhip belonging to his Majeſty, or any of his ſubjects, or on " any goods laden on board any ſuch ſhip, intereſt or no intereſt, nor without further proof " of intereſt than the policy, nor by any way of gaming or wagering, or without benefit of " ſalvage to the aſſurer. And that every ſuch aſſurance ſhall be null and void. Yet,

" Firſt, Aſſurance on private ſhips of war may be made for the owners thereof, intereſt or " no intereſt.

" Secondly, Any goods, merchandize, or effects, from any ports or places in Europe, or " America, in poſſeſſion of the crowns of Spain or Portugal, may be aſſured in ſuch manner " as if this act had not been made.

" Thirdly, It ſhall not be lawful to make re-aſſurance, unleſs the inſurer ſhall be inſolvent, " become a bankrupt, or ſhall die; in either of which caſes, re-aſſurance may be made.

" Fourthly, All ſums to be lent on bottomree, or at *reſpondentia*, upon any Britiſh ſhip " bound to the Eaſt Indies, ſhall be lent only on the ſhip, or on the merchandize laden on " board ſuch ſhip, and ſhall be ſo expreſſed in the bond: and benefit of ſalvage ſhall be al- " lowed to the lender, who alone ſhall have a right to make aſſurance on the money ſo lent. " —And none ſhall recover more than the value of his intereſt on the ſhip or on its merchan- " dize, excluſive of the money ſo borrowed. And if it appears, that the value of his ſhare " in the ſhip or merchandize does not amount to the full ſum ſo borrowed, ſuch borrower " ſhall be reſponſible to the lender for ſo much of the money borrowed as he hath not laid " out on the ſhip or merchandize, with lawful intereſt, together with the aſſurance and " charges, in the proportion the money not laid out ſhall bear to the whole money lent, not- " withſtanding the ſhip and merchandize may be totally loſt.

" Fifthly, In all actions the plaintiff ſhall declare, within fifteen days, what ſums he has " aſſured.

" Sixthly, Perſons ſued on policies of aſſurances are to bring the money into court; and " the plaintiff not accepting it with coſts to be taxed, in full diſcharge; and ſhall afterward " proceed to trial in ſuch action, and the jury ſhall not aſſeſs greater damages to pay coſts than " the money ſo brought into court: ſuch plaintiff, in every ſuch caſe, ſhall pay to the defen- " dant, in every ſuch action, coſts to be taxed.

" In conſequence of an act of Parliament, of the preceding year 1745, for granting a re- " ward of twenty thouſand pounds to the diſcoverers of a north-weſt paſſage through Hudſon's Bay to the ſeas of Japan and China, as already related, a ſubſcription for ten thouſand pounds was now ſet on foot, divided into one hundred ſhares of one hundred pounds each, for fitting out two ſhips in this year 1746, in ſearch of that paſſage. Thoſe ſhips wintered at Port Nelſon, in Hudſon's Bay; and, in the year following, viz. 1747, they made ſeveral attempts for a paſſage weſtward, but were obliged to return home, the ſame year, quite

A. D. 1746 quite diſheartened and unſucceſsful; as has alſo been another attempt ſince made from Philadelphia. Yet, as this ſuppoſed paſſage was brought under the conſideration of Parliament, in the year 1749, we ſhall ſuſpend any further obſervations thereon till we come to that year.

1747 "By an exact ſurvey very lately pretended to have been made of the city and ſuburbs of "Dublin, the capital city of Ireland, its circumference meaſured ſeven and three quarters "Iriſh miles, which are equal to nine miles and three quarters of Engliſh ſtatute meaſure: "an Iriſh mile containing two thouſand two hundred and forty yards, and an Engliſh one "but one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty yards. Whereby" ſaid the public newſpapers, in this year 1747, from Ireland, "it appears, that Dublin is the ſixth in rank, of the largeſt "cities in Europe, for magnitude and number of inhabitants; the five greater cities being "London, Paris, Conſtantinople, Rome, and Moſcow." This was quite an inaccurate account, for Rome is far from being in the rank which that writer places it: and leſt any one may be thereby miſled, we ſhall here juſt remark, that it is certain, that neither Rome nor Dublin ought to ſtand ſo forward amongſt the great cities of Europe. For undoubtedly, Milan, Naples, Nurenberg, Peterſburgh, Amſterdam, &c. ſtand higher than either of thoſe two cities, as we hope to ſhew in our appendix.

The following ſuccinct ſurvey is taken from voyages, and other modern accounts, publiſhed about this time, being a catalogue of the forts, ſettlements, and factories, of the ſeveral European nations trading to, and in the way to Eaſt India, from the Iſle of St. Helena quite to Japan; and which may give readers a good general idea of Europe's correſpondence with Eaſt India, viz.

Poſſeſſed by Great Britain,

I. The Iſle of St. Helena, ſituated in the ſixteenth degree of ſouth latitude, about one thouſand two hundred miles weſt of the African coaſt, and one thouſand eight hundred miles eaſt of South America, being almoſt an entire rock, with a thin covering of vegetable earth, about twenty miles in circumference, with only one paſſage up to it, well fortified. It contains about two hundred families, who have ſufficient produce to ſupply our Eaſt India ſhips, in their way from India, and thoſe of other nations with which we are in peace, with freſh proviſions, fruits, and vegetables: but it is difficult for ſhips going to India to find it, becauſe of the winds.

II. Balſora, or Baſſora, at the upper end of the Perſian Gulph, at the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Here is a Britiſh and alſo a Dutch factory. Hither come many ſhips from ſeveral nations of Europe and Aſia, it being a place of great commerce. This place is alſo commodious to the Engliſh and Dutch, for conveying their letters home, overland, by way of Aleppo.

III. Gomron, in the ſaid Perſian Gulph, has both an Engliſh and Dutch factory, and ſubordinate inland ones, at Iſpahan: there being a conſiderable trade carried on betwixt this place and India.

As to Mocha, in Arabia, near the mouth of the Red Sea, the Engliſh and Dutch companies reſort to it for its coffee, hitherto the beſt in the world; but they have no ſettled factories there.

IV. In Cambaya, a province of proper India, the Engliſh Company have a Preſident and Council at Surat, who have, or lately had, the ſupreme direction of the commerce on all the

A. D.
1747 weſt coaſt of Malabar. Its ſubordinate factories are at Agra, Amadabat, Lahor, &c. but not always confined to ſuch places. At Anjengo the company built a fort in the year 1695.

V. On the ſaid coaſt of Malabar, the town and port of Bombay, with its iſle, is a ſovereignty of our company; of which enough has been ſaid elſewhere. And on the ſame coaſt there are factories, at Carwar, (Carwar is famous for the beſt pepper in India, for which reaſon our company has a fort there, as well as a factory; but pepper grows in general all over India, and therefore cannot be monopolized) Calecut, Telichery, Dabul, &c.

VI. On the Coromandel Coaſt, Britain has Fort St. George, having only an open road, and the adjoining Black Town of Madras. It is but a week's journey from the diamond mines of Golconda, held of the Mogul. Under the Governor and Council of this place, all the factories eaſtward, or beyond the Malabar coaſt, are ſubordinate, as,

Fort St. David, and the leſſer ones of Vizagapatan, Ganjam, &c. on that coaſt.

VII. In the kingdom and bay of Bengal, the Engliſh Company has Fort William at Calcutta, Ballalore, Cazembazar, Dacca, Patana, and ſome other ſubordinate factories; though their later ſucceſsful conflicts with the French in thoſe parts, have ſince made conſiderable alterations in this part of India.

VIII In the great iſland of Sumatra, our company have a fort and factory at Bencouli (or Bencoolen) alſo Fort Marlborough, near it; and ſome other ſubordinate factories.

IX. In Borneo iſland the Engliſh have a factory at Benjar.

By the Dutch Eaſt India Company are held the following, viz.

I. The extenſive and conſtantly improving colony of the moſt famous ſouthern point of Africa, called, The Cape of Good Hope, in full ſovereignty, with all its forts: where the ſhips of all nations in amity with the States General of the United Netherlands have liberty to ſtop and refreſh: under it is the iſle of Mauritius, eaſtward of Madagaſcar.

II. A factory at Baſſora, before-mentioned.

III. A factory at Surat, under which are many ſubordinate ones.

IV. On the weſt coaſt of Malabar, the Dutch Company have Rajapore, Barcelor, Cananor, Panane, Cranganor, Cochin, (taken from the Portugueſe, in the year 1662, after being poſſeſſed by them one hundred and fifty years, and ſo fortified as to be deemed impregnable: it is their principal ſettlement on this coaſt) Porcha, Carnapole, Coulan, Tegnapatan, Calecutt, &c. all taken from Portugal.

V. The entire coaſt, ports, and ports of the iſland of Ceylon, in full and abſolute propriety, and the abſolute engroſſment of the beſt cinnamon in the world.

VI. In Manaar Iſle, they have Teutecorin and Manapaar.

VII. On the coaſt of Coromandel, they have Negapatan, Porto-Novo, Sadraſpatan, Cabelon, Palicat, famous for cotton cloths, (their chief fort and factory of that coaſt, and of Pegu: it was retaken by the Dutch Company, in the year 1719, from the Portugueſe, who had held it ever ſince the year 1613, when they drove out the Dutch with great ſlaughter) Caletour, Maſulipatan, Binlipatan, &c.

VIII. In Bengal; Huguely, the chief factory, Balaſore, Cazembazar, Malda, Barnagal, Chincara, Patana, Dacca, &c.

IX. In Malacca Peninſula; the ſtrong fort and territory of that name.

X. In the iſland of Sumatra, the Dutch Company have factories at Acheen, Padang, Palimbam, Priaman, Bancalis, Siaque, &c.

A. D. 1747 XI. In Java Iſland, they have the great and ſtrong city of Batavia, the capital and dernier reſort of all their Eaſt India forts, ſettlements, and factories; with a far extended territory adjoining: alſo in the ſaid iſland they have factories at Bantam, Cheraban, Tagal, Japara, Rombang, Sorobay, &c.

XII. In the kingdom of Siam, factories at Siam, its capital, and at Ligore.

XIII. And at Aracan, in the kingdom of that name.

XIV. In the Iſle of Celebes, they have Macaſſar, its capital.

XV. In the Iſles of Borneo, Solor, Buro, Poleroon, Noro, Ceram, Ambay, &c. the Dutch Company have forts or factories; and in the Spice Iſlands of Amboyna, Ternate, Banda, Timor, &c. they are abſolute ſovereigns, poſſeſſing ſolely and excluſively all the ſpices of cloves, nutmegs, and mace, no where elſe to be found upon earth, that is as yet certainly known.

XVI. In Perſia, Gomron, and under it Iſpahan and Balſora.

Poſſeſſed by France, viz.

Thoſe of the French Eaſt India Company in India, were, viz.

I. A factory at Surat.

II. On the coaſt of Coromandel, the ſtrong fort and very populous town of Pondichery, with ſome ſubordinate ones. Piece goods, diamonds, and rice, being the ſtaple merchandize not only here, but on all this coaſt. It has, however, no harbour, being only an open road like Fort St. George, where they lade and unlade their merchandize by boats. But this fort and city of Pondichery was taken by our Eaſt India Company's forces, jointly with ſome of our King's troops, in the year 1761.

III. In Bengal, they have Balaſore and Charnagar, &c.

IV. The French Iſle of Bourbon, formerly called Maſcareen Iſle, to the eaſtward of the great Iſland of Madagaſcar, ſerves principally for a refreſhing place for their Eaſt India ſhips: they have alſo, more lately, raiſed quantities of coffee therein, and made ſeveral other good improvements.

Portugal, as already obſerved, was once lord-paramount of all the trade of Europe to the Eaſt Indies, from whom the Dutch gradually plucked off the beſt feathers of its wings.—What they have ſtill left is but inconſiderable, compared with what they have loſt, or with thoſe of England and Holland, although they ſtill retain a great ſound.

I. On the north eaſt coaſt of Africa beyond the Cape of Good Hope, they have Quiloa, Mombaza, Melinda, Mozambique, Magadoxa, &c. Ports very uſeful in their voyages to and from India, originally ſettled by them for that end: they alſo got conſiderable quantities of gold and drugs from thence.

II. In Cambaya, they ſtill retain the ſtrong forts of Diu and Dama, often in vain beſieged by the great armies of the Moguls.

III. On the Malabar Coaſt, Baſſaim, near the Iſle of Salſet, Choul and Bandara: Goa, on the ſame coaſt, is the capital of all their Eaſt India ſettlements; now inconſiderable for its commerce, and much decayed from its ancient ſplendor. Alſo the Iſles of Elephant, Carranjaa, Anjediva: alſo Annanor, Cavarda, Mangalor, and Moors Fort.

IV. On the Coromandel coaſt, they have St. Thomas, or Meliapour.

V. And laſtly, they have ſtill Macao Iſle, near the mouth of Canton river in China, but tributary to, and abſolutely at the mercy of the Chineſe.

1747 The Danes have long poſſeſſed the port and fort of Tranquebar, on the Coromandel Coaſt, and the ſubordinate one of Daneſburg.

The Swedes have as yet no eſtabliſhed factories in India, although they generally ſend one or two ſhips yearly thither. Neither have they at preſent any ſettlements any where out of their own kingdom, but in Germany.

Spain poſſeſſes the beſt forts of the Philippine Iſles, as Manilla, the capital town and port of the large iſle of that name, otherwiſe called Lucon. To which port of Manilla, the Spaniards from Acapulco, in Mexico, generally ſend two great ſhips yearly. But Spain can carry on no trade at all directly from Europe to the Eaſt Indies; being bound by treaty with Portugal, not to ſail thither by the Cape of Good Hope, as well as by the general treaty of Weſtphalia, in the year 1648.

N. B. The Dutch Eaſt India Company are the only Europeans who have any trade to the empire of Japan, from their great emporium of Batavia; but are not permitted to have any fort or factory at Japan.

Neither are any of the European nations, who trade to China, permitted to have factories there. The Engliſh Company had formerly ſettlements on the coaſts of Cochin-China and Tonquin, but now they only trade thither occaſionally. It is not the deſign of our work to be particular with reſpect to all the ſquabbles which the ſeveral European nations have had with each other in India, or with the ſeveral nations of the Eaſt, that being largely done by voyagers long ſince, but purely to point out the general extent of their commerce in that remote part of the world.

After a mad rebellion, raiſed in the ſummer of the year 1745, by a number of deſperate and ſtupid tools of our hereditary foes the French, and carried on till the ſpring of the following year 1746; the legiſlature at length wiſely determined to enact what ſhould undoubtedly have been made an eſſential preliminary of the conſolidating union of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland, concluded forty years before, whereby, and not till now, the true and ſolid liberties of the people of Scotland were eſtabliſhed, not only in thoſe parts of that country called the Highlands, (the ſource of all the rebellions againſt the beſt conſtitution upon earth) where Clanſhip, or an abject ſubmiſſion of the bulk of the people to the ſovereign will of their chieftains, had ever prevailed even from the earlieſt times, but even, though in a leſſer degree, in ſeveral parts of the Low Country of Scotland: that is to ſay, it was now legally determined to put all the people of Scotland upon the ſame equitable and rational footing of liberty and property, with their fellow-ſubjects of England, by an act of Parliament of this twentieth year of King George II. cap. xliii. For taking away and aboliſhing the heretable Juriſdictions in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, and for making Satiſfaction to the Proprietors thereof: and for reſtoring ſuch Juriſdictions to the Crown: and for making more effectual Proviſion for the Adminiſtration of Juſtice throughout that Part of the united Kingdom, by the King's Courts and Judges there, &c. The preamble whereof ſets forth, " that
" for remedying the inconveniences that have ariſen and may ariſe from the multiplicity and
" extent of heretable juriſdictions in that part of Great Britain called Scotland; for making
" ſatiſfaction to the proprierors thereof; for reſtoring to the crown the powers of juriſdiction
" originally and properly belonging thereto, according to the conſtitution; and for extending
" the influence, benefit, and protection of the King's laws and courts of juſtice to all his
" Majeſty's ſubjects in Scotland; and for rendering the union more complete;—it was
" enacted,

" Firſt,

A. D. 1747 "First, That all hereditary juriſdiction of juſticiary, and all regalities and heretable bailliеries, and all heretable conſtabularies, other than the office of High Conſtable of Scotland, and all ſtewartries, being parts only of ſhires or counties; and all ſheriffſhips and deputy-ſheriffſhips of diſtricts, being parts only of ſhires or counties in Scotland; poſſeſſed or claimed by any ſubject—and all juriſdictions, powers, authorities, and privileges thereunto appurtenant, annexed, or dependant thereupon, ſhall be hereby, from Lady-day 1748, abrogated, taken away, and totally diſſolved and extinguiſhed.

"Provided, That all lands annexed to the ſaid heretable baillieries, ſtewartries, and conſtabularies,—and the rents and duties, conſiſting in money, victual, cattle, or other goods,—ſhall remain and belong to them, and their heirs and ſucceſſors, and continue to be enjoyed by, and paid to them, notwithſtanding the extinction of the ſaid offices.

"Secondly, That all the before-named juriſdictions, powers, &c. belonging to ſuch offices, ſhall thenceforth be veſted in and exerciſed by the Court of Seſſion and Court of Juſticiary at Edinburgh, the judges in the ſeveral circuits, and the courts of the ſeveral ſheriffs and ſtewarts of ſhires or counties in Scotland reſpectively;—and that the ſeveral towns, villages, diſtricts, and bounds, which were ſubject to ſuch heretable offices and juriſdictions hereby diſſolved, and the inhabitants thereof, ſhall thenceforth be ſolely ſubject to the juriſdiction and authority of the before-named courts, and to ſuch other of the King's courts reſpectively, as the ſaid inhabitants would have been ſubject, in caſe ſuch hereditary juriſdictions and offices had never exiſted.

"Thirdly, That, from thenceforth, all ſuch heretable juriſdictions, in Scotland, not hereby before extinguiſhed, granted to, or poſſeſſed by any ſubject, either heretably, or for life, ſhall be hereby reſumed and annexed to the crown; and that the ſheriffs and ſtewarts ſhall from thenceforth be nominated and appointed by his Majeſty, his heirs and ſucceſſors.

"Provided, That no ſheriffſhip or ſtewartry in Scotland ſhall at any time hereafter be granted to any perſon whatſoever, either heretably or for life, or for any certain time exceeding one year: and, that no juſticiary, regality, conſtabulary, or bailliery, nor any judicature, authority, &c. of the like nature ſhall, at any time hereafter, be erected or granted in Scotland.

"Fourthly, Reaſonable pecuniary compenſation ſhall be allowed to the poſſeſſors of all ſuch heretable juriſdictions hereby abrogated, and to every clerk thereof: and claims thereof ſhall be duly entered and examined for this end, and be laid before the Parliament.

"Provided alſo, That no baron, or heretor, or proprietor of lands in Scotland ſhall henceforth, in criminal caſes, exerciſe any juriſdiction whatſoever, other than aſſaults and ſmaller crimes, for which the puniſhment ſhall only be a fine not exceeding twenty ſhillings ſterling; or by ſetting in the ſtocks for at moſt three hours in the day time,—or elſe by impriſonment not exceeding one month. And, in civil cauſes, ſuch baron or his baillie ſhall hold no plea, nor judge in any cauſe exceeding forty ſhillings ſterling; other than for recovering from the vaſſals or tenants of his lands and heritages their rents, or the dues of their mills. Priſons ſhall have windows or grates, open to inſpection from without, ſo as the priſoner may be viſited and converſed with; and none to be impriſoned but by warrant, expreſſing the cauſe of impriſonment.

"Provided, however, that the juriſdiction of fairs and markets, of coal works, ſalt works, and mines, be, as formerly, reſerved to their heretors; but without a power of inferring the loſs of life or demembration.—Provided alſo, that nothing in this act ſhall extend to

1747 " prejudice the juriſdiction veſted by law in any royal borough in Scotland, or, in cumulative " caſes, to burghs of regality and barony." The reſt of this long act relates to poyndings, or ſeizures; to the regulations and qualifications of ſheriffs, and their deputies, circuit courts and appeals therefrom, in certain civil cauſes, and to fines, &c.

This excellent ſtatute may, not unfitly, be termed a new Magna Charta to the free people of Scotland; who, from this time, though perhaps not merely or ſolely in direct conſequence thereof, but alſo from other concurring cauſes, have undoubtedly moſt viſibly increaſed in commerce, manufactures, wealth, and general induſtry; to a degree ſaid to be almoſt amazing to ſuch as, after ſome years abſence, have lately viſited that part of the united kingdom. So great is the influence of liberty in favour of induſtry and commerce.

N. B. " It having been found by experience, that the tenure of lands in Scotland, by " wardholding, and the conſequences of the ſame, being the caſualties of ward-marriage and " recognition, had been much more burdenſome and prejudicial to the vaſſals by that tenure, " than beneficial to the ſuperiors:" it was aboliſhed by the fiftieth ſtatute of the ſame ſeſſion, For taking away the Tenure of Ward-holding in Scotland, &c. enacted, " That the ſame be " converted into blanch-holding and feu-holdings, &c. to be further regulated, with reſpect to " the recompence, by the Court of Seſſion in Scotland, &c." This act ſeems to have been all that was wanting for compleating the freedom of vaſſals in Scotland.

There was another law of this ſame year and ſeſſion of Parliament, extremely well judged for the advancement of the proſperity of the Britiſh American Plantations, viz. An act, cap. xliv. To extend the Proviſions of an Act made in the thirteenth Year of his preſent Majeſty's Reign, intituled, " An Act for naturalizing ſuch foreign Proteſtants, and others therein " mentioned, as are ſettled or ſhall ſettle in any of his Majeſty's Colonies in America," to other foreign Proteſtants who conſcientiouſly ſcruple the taking of an oath. This law was expreſsly intended, " in favour of the congregation of Moravian brethren and other foreign " Proteſtants, not Quakers, who conſcientiouſly ſcruple the taking of an oath, and are ſettled " in his Majeſty's colonies in America; and whereas they and many others of the like perſuaſion are deſirous to tranſport themſelves thither, if the benefit of that act were extended " to them,—it was now enacted, that foreign Proteſtants, before deſcribed, born out of the " leigeance of his Majeſty, who have inhabited, or who ſhall inhabit and reſide for the ſpace " of ſeven years or more, in any of his Majeſty's ſaid colonies, without being abſent from the " ſame longer than two months at any one time; and ſhall ſubſcribe the declaration of fidelity, and affirm the effect of the abjuration-oath,—and alſo the profeſſion of their Chriſtian " belief, as ſubſcribed by the firſt of King William and Queen Mary, ſhall be adjudged and " taken to be his Majeſty's natural-born ſubjects to all intents and purpoſes. Provided ſuch " perſons, ſo to be thus naturalized, ſhall, within three months next before his taking ſuch " affirmation and making ſuch declaration, have received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper " in ſome Proteſtant or reformed congregation in ſome of thoſe colonies, and ſhall produce a " certificate thereof: when they ſhall enjoy all the privileges of this act and of that of the before-named thirteenth year of the King, but ſhall however be ſubject to all the reſtrictions " of that act relating to foreign Proteſtants thus naturalized: provided alſo, that nothing in " that act, nor in the preſent one, ſhall be conſtrued to extend to naturalize any who, by " virtue of an act of the fourth year of his preſent Majeſty's reign, entitled, An Act to explain a Clauſe in an Act of the ſeventh of Queen Anne, cap. iv. for naturalizing foreign " Proteſtants, which relates to the Children of the natural-born Subjects of the Crown of

A. D. 1747 “ England, or of Great Britain: are declared and enacted not to be entitled to the benefit of “ the ſaid act of the ſeventh of Queen Anne.”

The buildings and inhabitants of the town of Liverpool in Lancaſhire, being of late years ſo greatly increaſed by its vaſtly extended foreign commerce, that, although until the tenth and eleventh years of King William the Third, it was not ſo much as made a diſtinct or ſeparate pariſh from that of Walton, whereof it was a part; and that thereby a new church was erected therein: and that ſtill greatly increaſing, it had another pariſh church erected therein, by an act of the firſt year of King George the Firſt, in the year 1715. “ And whereas, by a “ ſtatute of this twenty-firſt year of King George II. cap. xxiv. it appeared, that its buildings “ and inhabitants were further ſo greatly increaſed, that the ſaid churches were not ſufficient “ to contain one third part of its inhabitants profeſſing the doctrine of the church of England; “ another church was hereby authoriſed to be erected in the ſaid town.” By this laſt-named ſtatute, ſeveral regulations were enacted for cleanſing, paving, and enlightening the ſtreets of Liverpool, and for a goodly nightly watch therein. Such have been, and ever will be, the conſequences of an increaſing commerce, viz. neatneſs, beauty, and ſafety.

The planters in the Engliſh ſugar colonies, in the infancy of thoſe plantations, had cultivated conſiderable quantities of indigo, as being always a great merchantable commodity, whereby their mother-country was then well ſupplied therewith. Some authors have related, that in the iſland of Jamaica, indigo was produced in ſuch abundance, eſpecially in the pariſh of Vere, that three hundred coaches have been ſeen at that pariſh church on Sundays. But a tax of three ſhillings and ſix-pence per pound-weight, being by the legiſlature laid on indigo, the planters of Jamaica dropped the cultivation thereof entirely; and although the Parliament afterwards repealed that duty, yet a manufacture once loſt, is not eaſily regained, more eſpecially in a country ſo expenſive as Jamaica is. Yet what that people were not willing or able to effect, has at length been brought to bear by the induſtrious planters of Carolina, greatly to their honour, and, we hope, to their future great benefit.

In ſucceeding times, the other Weſt India Iſlands found, that the planting of the ſugar-cane was beyond all other things the moſt gainful; and therefore they alſo gradually dropped the cultivation of indigo. Nevertheleſs, the French iſlands in the neighbourhood of ours, inſtead of following that example, went on with annually increaſing their quantity of indigo; ſo that, excepting what comes from the Eaſt Indies, and ſome which Spain imports from her American colonies, France, till about this time, ſupplied the greateſt part of Europe with it from their Weſt India Iſlands; and Britain and Ireland alone have been, by common eſtimation, reckoned to have paid to France about two hundred thouſand pounds annually for indigo. This would probably have been the caſe ſtill, had not the people of both North and South Carolina made this year a ſucceſsful attempt to propagate the growth of indigo in that province. Thoſe two colonies had by this time carried the production of rice to ſuch a height, that even in time of peace, its quantity had over-ſtocked thoſe parts of Europe to which they were wont to ſend it, ſo that they got but little by it; the caſe was ſtill worſe when the war with France broke out, in the year 1743, by reaſon of the high freight and inſurances. This put the planters of that fine country upon trying to employ their negroes on ſeveral new manufactures of linen, woollen, &c. which they were before accuſtomed to take from Great-Britain; of which their ſaid mother-country would ſoon have become jealous, and which, moreover, did not much turn out to their own particular advantage. Upon this occaſion, it was fortunate for thoſe colonies, that the true indigo plant happened to be diſcovered to

grow

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1747 grow ſpontaneouſly almoſt every where there. Whereupon eſſays began to be made a year or two preceding this year 1747, and the indigo anſwered expectation ſo far, that in this ſame year, about two hundred thouſand pound-weight of it was ſhipped for England, and ſold very well, though not at firſt quite ſo well cured as the French indigo. This ſucceſs produced a petition to Parliament from the Carolina merchants, in April 1748, for a ſmall bounty on the importation of indigo from Carolina, whereby the planters might be encouraged to proceed ſo far, as not only to ſupply Great Britain and Ireland, but likewiſe foreign markets with ſo univerſal a commodity: whilſt, at the ſame time, petitions were encouraged from merchants, clothiers, and dyers from all parts of England, in favour of this new production, ſince brought to great perfection; and that, as indigo is a commodity without which a good blue colour cannot be dyed, a bounty might be allowed on its importation in ſomewhat near the terms of the Carolina merchants petition. Whereupon, in the year 1748, an act paſſed (the twenty-firſt of George the Second, cap. xxx.) for allowing ſix-pence per pound-weight on all indigo raiſed in any of the Britiſh American colonies, and imported into Great Britain directly from the place of its growth; which has ſince then had a very good and ſucceſsful effect.

The following number of ſhips from Europe were all that were in China in this year 1747, viz. eight from England; ſix Dutch; four Swediſh; and two Daniſh: in all twenty ſhips.—The French being at war with Great Britain, did not ſend thither any ſhips in this year.

1748 We have ſeen the ſtatute repealed of the ſeventh year of Queen Anne, cap. v. For a general Naturalization of foreign Proteſtants, by an act of the tenth of that Queen, cap. v. the preambles to both which ſtatutes, as we have already ſhewn, are as contrary to each other as light is to darkneſs. In the beginning of 1748, an attempt was made in Parliament, and a bill brought into the Houſe of Commons, for the revival of the firſt-named ſtatute, in behalf of a general naturalization: but it was thrown out by a great majority. The ſubſtance of the reaſons for rejecting it was, That we had poor Proteſtants of our own, even more than we could well provide for; and as a moderate expence would enable any foreign Proteſtants who ſhall have brought any ſubſtance with them ſufficient to obtain an act of Parliament for that end; ſuch only were worth our while to be received and ſettled with us. This was again brought into Parliament in April 1751, but then was alſo rejected,

On the other hand, let us, on this occaſion, ſee what a very able nobleman has ſaid on that ſubject, viz. my Lord Moleſworth, in the Preface to his Engliſh Tranſlation of Hottoman's Franco-Gallia, in the year 1721, p. 23-4, ſecond edition, viz.

“ What ſhould hinder us from an act of general naturalization?—Eſpecially when we conſider, that no private acts of that kind are refuſed. But the expence is ſo great, that few attempt to procure them, and the benefit which the public receives thereby is therefore inconſiderable.—Experience has ſhewn us the folly and falſity of thoſe plauſible inſinuations, that ſuch a naturalization would take the bread out of Engliſhmen's mouths. We are convinced, that the greater number of workmen of one trade there is in any town, the more does that town thrive; and the greater will be the demand for the manufacture, the vent to foreign parts, and the quicker circulation of the coin. The conſumption of the produce of both land and induſtry increaſes viſibly in towns full of people; nay, the more ſhall every induſtrious perſon thrive in ſuch a place; though indeed drones and idlers will not find their account, who would fain ſupport their ſuperfluous expences at their neighbours coſt, who make one or two days labour provide for four days extravagance. And this is the common calamity of moſt of our corporation towns, whoſe inhabitants do all they can to

A. D. 1748 " diſcourage plenty, induſtry, and population ; and will not admit of ſtrangers but upon hard terms, through the falſe notion that they themſelves, their children, and apprentices, have the only right to ſquander their town's revenue, and to get, at their own rates, all that is to be gotten within their precincts.—And therefore ſuch towns are, at beſt, at a ſtand, very few in a thriving condition, and theſe are where their bye-laws are leaſt reſtrictive : but moſt throughout England fall to viſible decay, whilſt new villages, not incorporated, or towns more liberal of their privileges, grow up in their ſtead, till in proceſs of time, the firſt ſort will become almoſt as deſolate as Old Sarum in Wiltſhire, and will as well deſerve to loſe their right of ſending repreſentatives to Parliament. For, certainly, a waſte or deſart has no right to be repreſented, nor by our original conſtitution was ever intended ſo to be."

His Lordſhip had immediately before ſaid, " That it is a truth which few will make a doubt of, that we are not one third part peopled, though better ſo, in proportion, than any other part of Europe, Holland excepted ; and that our ſtock of men decreaſes daily, through our wars, plantations, and ſea-voyages."

Had his Lordſhip lived to ſee the years 1759, 1760, and 1762, and the very great difficulty there then was of manning our fleets and armies, he would probably have been much further confirmed in the expediency of a general naturalization.

In this year 1748, the populace in Holland having compelled their rulers to aboliſh the old exciſe duty, amounting to ten millions of guilders for that ſingle province, we thereby have learned, in ſome degree at leaſt, the proportion of the wealth which the ſeveral other places of that moſt populous province bears to its mighty metropolis, viz.

	Guilders.
Amſterdam paid annually — — —	3,802,720
Rotterdam (about one-fourth part of Amſterdam) —	997,950
Haerlem (above one-fifth) — — —	801,200
Leyden, (above one-fifth) — — —	783,130
Dort (almoſt one-ſeventh) — — —	511,960
Gouda (almoſt one-eighth) — — —	459,500
Alkmaer — — — —	267,100
Briel — — — —	232,290
Delft, Schiedam, and the Hague — — —	1,492,860
Hoorn — — — —	153,240
Gornichem — — — — —	141,760
Enchuyen — — — —	105,060
Monickendam — — — —	68,420
Purmerend — — — —	61,260
Medenblick — — — —	45,460
The Iſlands on the coaſt of Holland — —	42,740
Total is ten millions —	10,000,000

Whilſt the new ſubſidy of five per cent. on imported commodities was in debate, both within and without doors at London, in the year 1748, the ſugar planters and Weſt India merchants, greatly alarmed thereat, publiſhed ſeveral eſſays, tending to ſhew the ruin, or at leaſt the great detriment which that duty, which however took place, would bring on the ſugar colonies.—

From

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1748 From thoſe eſſays, as well as from the cuſtom-houſe accounts then laid before the Parliament, we may gather the true ſtate of the Britiſh ſugar trade compared with that of France, taking the year 1742 for the rule; probably becauſe we were that year at peace with France, though at war with Spain, viz.

Firſt, Sugars produced at the French Weſt India iſlands, in the year 1742, viz.

	C. Wt.
On Martinico, Guadaloupe, and the other leſſer iſles —	622,500
On Hiſpaniola — — — —	848,000
Total hundred-weight —	1,470,500

Being about the quantity of one hundred and twenty-two thouſand five hundred hogſheads of twelve hundred-weight each.

Secondly, Sugars produced at the Britiſh Weſt India iſles, in the year 1742.

	Hogſheads.		
Imported into Great Britain — —	60,950		
Shipped from our iſlands to the northern colonies and to foreign markets — —	5,000		
Total hogſheads —	65,950	— or -	791,400 Cwt.
Of which ſixty thouſand nine hundred and fifty hogſheads there are exported from Great Britain to Ireland, and to all foreign markets, hogſheads	5,236		
Conſumed in Great Britain — —	55,714		
Hogſheads, at about twenty-five pounds per hhd.	60,950	— or about	731,400 Cwt.
Total produced in that year more by the French than by the Engliſh			679,100 Cwt.

This ſhewed the almoſt incredible improvements which France had made in her ſugar iſlands in about forty years; in conſequence of which they were at this time enabled to underſell us in moſt places of Europe. Though we truſt the time is at length come, or at hand, when we ſhall regain our former great exportation to foreign parts of ſugars, and other Weſt India commodities.

	£.
Thirdly, Thoſe eſſays however do admit, that in times of profound peace, both with France and Spain, our ſugar iſles may produce ſeventy-five thouſand hogſheads of ſugar annually, twelve hundred-weight each hogſhead: of which ſeventy thouſand hogſheads may be annually imported into Great Britain; which, at fifteen pounds per hogſhead, comes to — — — —	1,050,000
And five thouſand hogſheads ſent directly from thoſe iſlands to North America, and to foreign markets, at ten pounds each; with fifty thouſand of rum and melaſſes, at ſix pounds on an average, per hogſhead — —	350,000
Total value in ſterling money —	1,400,000

The

A. D. 1748 The tendency of thoſe reaſonings was to demonſtrate that the then-high price of our ſugars was not owing to our planters extravagant profits; but merely to the ſmall quantities produced in ſome years. They alſo admitted, that, ſince France has ſo vaſtly improved her ſaid colonies, there is more ſugar made in all America, including the Spaniſh, Portugueſe, Dutch, and Daniſh colonies, in ſome favourable years than all Europe can conſume: which was particularly the reaſon of the low price of ſugars between the years 1728 and 1735. Now, ſay theſe eſſays, if the value of the coffee, pimento, logwood, and mahogany, from Jamaica, and of the ginger, cotton, and drugs, from that and other Britiſh Sugar Iſles be added to the foregoing account, the importations from thoſe iſlands may, probably, amount to one million five hundred thouſand pounds yearly.

There were alſo, whilſt the bill for that duty was depending in Parliament, ſeveral accounts publiſhed by the tobacco merchants for preventing that commodity's being included therein. And it appeared upon a medium of three years, in the Cuſtom-houſe books, viz, 1744, 1745, and 1746, that there was imported into England alone (omitting the odd hundred thouſands) forty millions of pounds weight of tobacco from our American Plantations. And by the like medium there was exported thirty-three millions: ſo that England annually conſumed ſeven millions of pounds weight of tobacco.

	£.	s.	d.
And if England alone were to pay the duty of four-pence three farthings per pound on the ſaid forty millions of pounds, it would amount in ſterling money to — — — — —	791,666	13	4
But as thirty-three millions of pounds are annually exported, and the whole duty thereof drawn back, the duty is to be deducted —	653,125	0	0
So the net duty of the ſeven millions conſumed in England is	138,541	13	4
Now, valuing the thirty-three millions of pounds of tobacco at ſix-pence per pound weight, that will be — — —	825,000	0	0
And if Scotland may be allowed to export annually ſeven millions of pounds, that, at ſix-pence per pound, likewiſe comes to —	175,000	0	0
There will then be annually exported from Great Britain forty millions of pounds, which, at ſix-pence per pound comes to —	1,000,000	0	0

Which ſaid million ſterling may be deemed to be all clear gain to the nation, over and above this trade's giving employment to about twenty-five thouſand tons of Britiſh ſhipping. Some of the printed accounts publiſhed on this particular occaſion, for influencing the legiſlature in favour of our tobacco colonies, (and which therefore are to be read with ſome caution, like all others publiſhed for ſuch particular ends) make our annual importation of tobacco into Great Britain, to be one year with another, about eighty thouſand hogſheads, weighing nine hundred pounds weight each, or ſeventy-two millions of pounds. And they generally ſuppoſed one-fourth part thereof, or eighteen millions, to be conſumed at home; and that the remaining fifty-four millions were annually re-exported for foreign conſumption.

Others made our total annual importation of tobacco but ſixty-two thouſand hogſheads, or fifty-five millions eight hundred thouſand pounds; and that England alone conſumes twelve thouſand hogſheads thereof; which, if all paid the duty of four-pence three farthings per lib. would

A. D. 1748 would yield two hundred and thirteen thouſand ſeven hundred and fifteen pounds to the crown. But as conſiderable quantities are ſmuggled inwards for home conſumption, the whole duty may not be above one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, and according to others of thoſe papers but one hundred and thirty thouſand pounds. Whereas, ſay they, if the whole for home conſumption paid the duty, it would yield much more: which ſhews the great loſs to the revenue, only in this one ſingle article by ſmuggling.

In April of the ſaid year 1748, application was made to Parliament by the then expiring Royal African Company, and their few friends within doors, for committing the management of their forts and factories, (for the preſervation whereof the Commons did not ſeem inclined to truſt that company any more with money) to a new company, with a ſuitable joint ſtock: which company they propoſed ſhould have "the licenſing and regulating the whole buſineſs "of pawnbrokers, for preventing their buying or lending money on ſtolen goods, and for "reducing their exorbitant rates of fifty, forty, and thirty per cent. per annum, for intereſt "or premium, to twenty per cent. at furtheſt." Which ſcheme was to lay the foundation of their propoſed joint ſtock.

At the ſame time the creditors of the Royal African Company petitioned the Houſe of Commons, for having their claim paid out of the ſuppoſed value of that company's forts on that coaſt, now valued at one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, and propoſed to be paid by the new company to the old one. Which plauſible project had two different views, viz. hereby the old company would be enabled to pay all their debts, the greateſt part whereof was due to themſelves; *i. e.* to the directors and their friends, and would over and above have, probably, a dividend to make on their then merely nominal capital, on its diſſolution.

Secondly, That the propoſed new company ſhould ſpring up out of the ruins of the ſaid old one and their creditors, with a few others of their friends; and would, without doubt, have made a good intereſt on the money they ſhould advance for the before-named purpoſes out of the ſaid ſcheme for regulating of pawn-brokers. For ſupporting of this plauſible ſcheme, the old company and their creditors inſiſted, "that one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds was a "very moderate valuation of their forts on the African ſhores; not only conſidering their "very great uſefulneſs againſt the treachery and inſults of the natives, but likewiſe for defence "againſt the too frequent encroachments of other European competitors with large joint "ſtocks. That ſo far is the objection ſo often made from being juſt, viz. That if all our "forts in Africa were to be demoliſhed, excepting Cape-Coaſt-Caſtle, and alſo James-Fort "in the river Gambia, thoſe two forts, together with two or three ſhips of war always cruiſing "thereabout, would be ſufficient to protect the trade of the whole coaſt; that there is actually "need of more forts than we now have, particularly at Anamaboe and Sierra Leone, and alſo "higher up on the river Gambia, where the French are ſtriving to ſupplant us. That it is "admitted, that ſhips of war, jointly with all the forts, are needful; but, without our forts, "that would by no means anſwer our purpoſe on ſo uncivilized a coaſt; where, for that "reaſon, a joint ſtock company is much better calculated for protecting the commerce than "any number of private perſons can be. Alſo, that thoſe forts are very uſeful for our "negro trade; without which our American plantations could not be ſupported; more "eſpecially as the beſt negroes are purchaſed at and about thoſe coaſts where the company's "forts and ſettlements are: from which coaſts alſo we import gold, ivory, bees-wax, beaver, "and many other valuable commodities, in exchange for Britiſh manufactures and our own "Eaſt India merchandize. Laſtly, Without ſuch forts and ſettlements, it would be not only

"extremely

A. D. 1748 "extremely difficult to protect, and, in caſes of diſtreſs, to relieve our ſhips trading on that "coaſt, but alſo to ſecure the inland trade thereof." Notwithſtanding all which at leaſt ſpecious propoſals, the African Company's papers remained on the table to the end of that ſeſſion of Parliament: ſo difficult did our legiſlators find it at this time effectually to ſettle that trade.

All parties being weary of war, a peace was, in this ſame year 1748, concluded at Aix la Chapelle. Whereby all that had been conquered by France in the Auſtrian and Dutch Netherlands was reſtored to their reſpective ſovereigns. Moreover, between Great Britain and France, it was ſtipulated, mutually to reſtore whatever forts or territories had during this war been taken on either ſide: ſo that fort St. George in India was reſtored to our Eaſt India Company; as, on the other hand, the iſland of Cape Breton, and its town and fortreſs of Louiſbourg, were reſtored to France.

With reſpect to Spain, ſhe indeed acceded to the general peace, but without any particular ſtipulations in point of commerce between Great Britain and her: what related to the South Sea Company's commerce, on one hand, and the depredations of the Spaniſh guarda coſtas, on the other, being referred to the diſagreeable and tedious way of negociating, by Sir Benjamin Keene, at Madrid. In the mean time, it was plain, that the court of Spain never intended to permit another annual South Sea ſhip to trade to their Weſt Indies, there being but about four years to run of the term of that contract, viz. forty years from 1713 to 1753, the ſeveral interruptions of the trade being deducted or allowed for. And whilſt this ſuſpenſion continued, many things paſſed in converſation, and ſeveral eſſays were publiſhed for and againſt that manner of trading. In favour of it, it was ſaid, that the great annual ſhip uſually conveyed about two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds value in manufactures from hence to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, for the company's account; and that in each of thoſe great ſhips there went about fifty thouſand pounds more in private trade: upon which trade, it was alleged, a profit of near cent. per cent. was made. That therefore the gain to the nation was greater this way than in or by the old channel of our trade by the way of Cadiz, even though the Jamaica ſmuggling trade were included therein: and that, although the South Sea Company might not be ſo great gainers, yet their factors, agents, &c. brought home great fortunes, frequently in a very ſhort ſpace of time; and our ſaid annual ſhip's cargoes kept out the ſupplying of the Spaniſh Weſt Indies by the French, Dutch, &c. to our nation's great emolument.

On the other hand, it was aſſerted, and very generally believed, that the South Sea annual ſhip had occaſioned a vaſt decreaſe of our annual exports to Spain, ſome ſaid even ſo much as to one half of former exports, whilſt at the ſame time our imports from Spain have been gradually increaſing. That the ſuperiority of our arms forced the Aſſiento-contract on Spain, againſt their inclinations, and on that ſcore the Spaniſh court and traders have diſcouraged our manufactures formerly ſent to Cadiz, and encouraged thoſe of France, Flanders, and Holland. That of the cargoes of our ſaid annual ſhip itſelf, a great deal conſiſted of the merchandize of foreign nations, and particularly of thoſe of France and Holland, for aſſortments for the Spaniſh markets in America. That the Aſſiento-contract had enhanced the price of negroes for our own colonies. That our ſupplying the Spaniſh Weſt Indies ſo regularly with negroes, had encouraged them to raiſe greater quantities of ſugar and tobacco, to the detriment of our own. That the Spaniſh court having always effects of the South Sea Company in their American ports, had it conſtantly in their power to make ſeizures of thoſe effects on various,

and

1748 and often unjuſt pretences. Thus, in the year 1718, the company's loſs hereby was computed at about two hundred and twenty-five thouſand pounds ſterling; and, in 1727, to about half as much more; beſides the ſeizures by the war now concluded, and not yet juſtly computed; and the many other violences of the Spaniſh American governors and agents. Finally, as the company had undoubtedly, upon the whole, been loſers by their trade, as they had only four years more of their Aſſiento-term remaining, which Spain was determined not to renew, at leaſt on any promiſing terms; for theſe and ſuch-like reaſons, it was concluded by the Britiſh Court, to inſtruct her miniſter at Madrid, to obtain the beſt equivalent that could be procured for the remaining ſhort term of the Company's Aſſiento-contract: the reſult of which ſhall be ſhewn in its place.

By a ſtatute of the before-named twenty-firſt year of King George II. the fund of the orphans of the city of London was further prolonged and ſecured; by continuing the ſix-pence per chaldron or ton on coals and culm, which was to expire at Michaelmas 1750, by the fifth and ſixth of William and Mary, for thirty-five years longer, for the following purpoſes, viz.

Firſt, For raiſing three thouſand pounds yearly to the Mercers Company, for payment of their annuities and debts; and,

Secondly, The reſidue thereof for making part of the orphans fund; for the benefit of which alſo all the city manors, lands, &c. ſhall ſtand charged with the yearly ſum of two thouſand pounds over and above the eight thouſand pounds applied by former laws. “And as the fund for raiſing the four per cent. intereſt on the orphans capital ſtock has produced a very large ſurplus, including twenty-one thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-five pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and nine-pence due at Midſummer 1748, to make good the yearly ſum of two thouſand pounds, which by a former act ought to have been raiſed on the perſonal eſtates of the citizens, this ſurplus ſhall be applied to pay off the principal ſum of the orphans debt. No orphan, under age, ſhall be paid off, ſo long as there ſhall be others, not orphans, or not under age, to be paid off. The Chamberlain of London ſhall yearly, at Michaelmas, lay before both houſes of Parliament an account of the ſurplus ariſen on the ſaid fund, what has been paid off the principal, and what ſhall remain thereof unpaid off.”

By a ſcheme, publiſhed in the year 1755, for building a new bridge acroſs the Thames from Blackfriars, the above-named ſurplus, on an average of five years to Midſummer 1755, amounted to four thouſand four hundred and forty-four pounds per annum; upon which the propoſer was for raiſing annuities for lives, which with twenty thouſand pounds more to be raiſed by voluntary ſubſcription, he ſays, would raiſe a ſum ſufficient to build ſuch a bridge. He alſo ſays, that the whole orphans debt amounted, at Midſummer 1755, to ſix hundred and eighty-ſeven thouſand two hundred and thirty-four pounds ſix ſhillings and ten-pence.

1749 We have ſeen, that ſeveral ſtatutes have been made at different times for the encouragement of the ſubjects of Great Britain to carry on and improve the whale fiſhery: and as the enlargement thereof would be of very great advantage to our trade and navigation, an act of Parliament of the twenty-ſecond year of King George II. cap. xlv. paſſed, “For the further Encouragement and Enlargement thereof, and for continuing ſuch Laws as are therein mentioned relating thereto; and for the Naturalization of ſuch foreign Proteſtants as ſhall ſerve, for the Time therein mentioned, on board ſuch Ships as ſhall be fitted out for the ſaid Fiſhery.” Whereby the ſeveral acts of Parliament in favour of that fiſhery were now further continued: and over and above the allowance of twenty ſhillings per ton enacted by the ſixth and continued by the thirteenth of King George II. a further bounty or allowance

“ was

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"was hereby granted of twenty ſhillings more per ton. Moreover," for the further encouragement of Britiſh colonies in America in this fiſhery, and for the promoting of their building of large ſhips there, "it was hereby enacted, that every ſhip built or fitted out in any of "thoſe colonies of two hundred tons and upwards, and not being more than two years old "from the firſt building thereof, ſetting out from any port of the Britiſh American dominions "on the whale fiſhery, manned and navigated according to the navigation acts, and properly "fitted and furniſhed for that fiſhery, ſhall likewiſe be entitled to the ſaid joint bounty of forty "ſhillings per ton, on their arrival from the ſaid whale fiſhery in ſome port of Great Britain, "on certain further conditions therein ſtipulated. Foreign Proteſtants who ſhall ſerve three "years on board Britiſh whale-fiſhery ſhips, and ſhall take the uſual qualification oaths, ſhall "be deemed natural-born ſubjects of Great Britain to all intents and purpoſes, (as far as "other foreign Proteſtants can ſo be) provided they ſhall have received the Sacrament of the "Lord's Supper in ſome Britiſh Proteſtant or reformed congregation, within three months "before his taking the ſaid ſtate oaths, and ſhall produce a certificate thereof ſigned by the "miniſter and two other witneſſes. Yet ſuch naturalized foreigner ſhall loſe his naturalization, upon his being more than twelve months out of Great Britain or Ireland, or his "Majeſty's plantations in America."

Whilſt Benjamin Keene, the Britiſh miniſter, was treating with the court of Madrid of all the commercial differences between the two nations, our London merchants who traded to Cadiz handed about a manuſcript paper, tending to prove, that the trade by the South Sea Company's annual ſhip directly to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies was not ſo beneficial to the Britiſh nation in general, as was the former method of our ſending goods directly to Cadiz, and thence with the regiſter ſhips to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies.

	Dollars.
"First, That paper ſuppoſes the whole out-ſet (ſhip and all) of a ſhip of ſix "hundred tons, with her cargo, from Cadiz to La Vera Cruz, to amount to	346,903

"Secondly, And the net returns from La Vera Cruz, deducting commiſſion, "indulto's, &c. to be — — — —	717,134¼
"Deduct the out-ſet — — — —	346,903
"And there remains the profit — — —	370,231¼

"Being near one hundred and ſeven per cent. profit. But, if inſurances be deducted for "thoſe who would not run the riſque of the ſea, and which in time of peace would not exceed twelve per cent. then the remaining profit would be ninety-five per cent. But the "chief advantage in this affair is ſuppoſed to ariſe from having both the ſhip and the King's "licence one's own. For," ſays this author, "beſide the conſiderable freights which ſuch "ſhips make, there are very great profits made by the privileged goods embarked thereon.

"Thirdly, Next, we have the particular aſſortments of ſuch a cargo, with the ſeveral "countries they are had from, viz.

	Dollars.
"I. Purchaſed chiefly at Cadiz, though not all Spaniſh merchandize, iron, "wrought and unwrought, ſteel, wax, which muſt be whitened at Cadiz, "Genoa paper, Brabant linen, Dutch knives, wines, brandy, and ſeveral ordinary ſtowage goods, amounting in all to — —	46,300
Carried over	46,000

"II. Britiſh

	Dollars.
Brought over	46,300
“ II. Britiſh manufactures, viz. long-ells of various colours, ſays, ſhalloons, “ hair and worſted camblets, bays, Spaniſh cloths, worſted ſtockings, hats, and “ hardware; in all — — — —	115,500
“ III. From Flanders; ’ſtamins, coarſe ſays, Buratos, Lamparillas, Bra- “ bant linen, bleached, and Tournay ditto, unbleached —	15,800
“ IV. From France; Britannias, broad and narrow, Rouen linen, bleached, “ dowlas, Morlaix linen, cambrics and lawns; amounting to —	49,350
“ V. From Germany; Sileſia and Hamburg linens, lawns, and ſeveral other “ ſorts of linen, thread, calimancoes, &c. — —	22,200
“ VI. From Spain, viz. Genoa womens ſtockings, Spaniſh double taffaty of “ various colours, and Spaniſh velvets — — —	21,000
“ Total amount of the cargo, in dollars — —	270,150

“ In this aſſortment of goods for the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, the Britiſh manufactures make “ up one-third of the whole, which muſt go by the way of Cadiz, in caſe the Aſſiento of the “ South Sea Company be laid aſide; and by its being ſo laid aſide, the value of all Engliſh “ goods ſent from Cadiz to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, will be increaſed to at leaſt three mil- “ lions of dollars, or above ſix hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds ſterling, “ yearly: “ and ſuppoſing, in time of peace, nine millions value in goods to be annually ſent from “ Cadiz to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, excluſive of Britiſh manufactures,” few of which, according to this author, were ſent that way whilſt the Aſſiento was in exerciſe, “ and thereto “ be added the ſaid three millions in value of Britiſh manufactures, then the diſpatches yearly “ from Cadiz to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies will be twelve millions of dollars. Now,” continues this author, “ allowing that the Britiſh merchants ſhould, as eaſily they may, be one- “ third concerned in the ſaid trade, which on a moderate computation renders at leaſt fifty “ per cent. profit, or two millions of dollars more gained to our nation. This he thinks,” juſt enough from his own premiſes, which however ſeem conſiderably exaggerated, “ will be “ found to exceed any advantage that has or ever can proceed from the Aſſiento, by which it “ is notorious that the South Sea Company have loſt very conſiderably: he therefore con- “ cludes, that the commercial intereſt of Great Britain will be much benefited by the extinc- “ tion of the Aſſiento. And, with reſpect to our political intereſt, whilſt the ſaid Aſſiento “ ſubſiſts, it will prove a continual bone of contention between two nations whoſe mutual “ intereſts are, more than any other two nations in Europe, to be cloſely united.”

The government of Great Britain began now ſeriouſly to conſider the great importance of the country and ports of Nova Scotia, which Captain Thomas Corom had, ſo long before as the year 1735, in his blunt but judicious memorial and petition to the Privy Council, ſo well repreſented to be in a moſt naked and unſettled condition; whereby the French had full leiſure to make the moſt ſhameful and barefaced encroachments on our ſaid undoubted province. It was now at length begun to be conſidered as the very key of North America. Upon the concluding of the peace of Aix la Chapelle therefore they ſent out a large colony to a place having a fine harbour, where they ſettled and built a town, which they named Halifax, from the title of the noble lord who then and ſince preſided ſo worthily at the Board of Trade and Planta-

A. D. 1749 tions. The excellence of this province was now at length viewed in three different and advantageous lights, viz.

Firſt, For its happy ſituation, as capable of always annoying and intercepting our enemies, and as a barrier for New England.

Secondly, For the great fiſhery of its adjacent ſeas. And,

Thirdly, For its infinite quantities of timber for the uſe of the royal navy, beſides ſeveral new productions which may probably be hereafter raiſed therein.

Upon an allegation in certain pamphlets, &c. touching a north-weſt paſſage to the ſea of Japan, that the Hudſon's Bay Company had not hitherto encouraged any attempts for finding ſuch a paſſage, and that a more extenſive and beneficial trade might be carried on to the countries about Hudſon's Bay if the trade were laid quite open; the Houſe of Commons appointed a committee to enquire into thoſe allegations, whilſt petitions from Briſtol, Liverpool, &c. were ſent up, for laying that trade open. Nevertheleſs, upon that committee's full enquiry and examination of witneſſes who had lived at Hudſon's Bay, their report gave very little ground to hope for any great increaſe of commerce there, the country being very inhoſpitable on the ſea coaſts; yet it appeared, that the inland countries to the ſouth and weſt of that bay abound with fine woods, wild fowl, wild beaſts, river fiſh, &c. and that corn and pulſe would grow thereon, were plantations made. That however, conſidering the company's capital, &c. it did not appear, that they had not, in general, done as well as could be expected for promoting the commerce there: that moreover it ſeemed very doubtful, whether, if the trade were laid quite open, it might not be gradually loſt from us to the French of Canada. Neither did the committee's report give any great hope of a ſafe paſſage likely to be diſcovered in any practicable latitude.

One Mr. Robſon indeed, who had been ſurveyor to the company, and who ſeemed now a diſguſted evidence againſt them, tells us, “ that the company's four ſmall factories contained “ only one hundred and thirty ſervants, and two ſmall houſes with only eight men in each.— “ That their annual exports were about four thouſand pounds in value; having, in time of “ peace, three ſhips each of one hundred and fifty to two hundred tons burden, with two or “ three ſmall ſloops ſtationed in the bay.—That there are inconteſtable evidences of rich copper “ and lead mines, yet the company gives no encouragement for working them, nor for their “ ſervants going into the inland countries.—That the probability of a paſſage is further “ ſtrengthened from the late diſcovery of bays, inlets, and broken lands, the weſtern ends of “ which are not yet diſcovered, there having been no rivers as yet obſerved on the north- “ weſt coaſt.—That the true reaſon of the company's not acting for the general benefit of the “ nation is, becauſe they have had no legal,” *i. e.* parliamentary, “ right to their excluſive “ trade ſince the year 1698, at which time the act of Parliament expired, which confirmed “ their charter for ſeven years. If therfeore,” ſays Mr. Robſon, “ at this period, the leaſt “ evidence had been ſuffered to tranſpire, that the climate is very habitable, the ſoil rich and “ fruitful, fit for both corn and cattle, rich in mines, and the fiſheries capable of great im- “ provement; that, moreover, the trade may even be extended by means of a naval paſſage, “ or at leaſt by a ſhort land paſſage, to the weſtern ocean, had proper experiments been made “ thereof at that time; and that the legiſlature would have taken the right into its own hands, “ and would have ſettled the country, and laid the trade open for the benefit of Britain.— “ That the company therefore have contented themſelves with dividing amongſt only about “ one hundred perſons, a large profit upon a ſmall capital. And have not only endeavoured

1749 “ to keep the true ſtate of the trade and country an impenetrable ſecret, but have alſo induſtriouſly propagated the worſt impreſſions of them. He therefore propoſed,

“ Firſt, That for preventing thoſe vaſt territories from falling into the hands of the French, from Canada, the legiſlature would purchaſe the company's right to ſuch lands as they have a legal title to,—and to lay the trade open.

“ Secondly, To ſettle the rivers and adjoining coaſts with European Proteſtants.

“ Thirdly, To civilize the natives.”

We have handled this ſubject ſo often and ſo fully, as to have quite exhauſted it; and we ſhall therefore leave it to the judgment of the public, after obſerving, that the company's opponents have, at different times, advanced ſeveral things in favour of the probability of a paſſage, and alſo in behalf of the goodneſs of the lands and climate, which ſeem too much exaggerated; and in this uncertain ſtate the ſubject may poſſibly remain to the end of time.

In this twenty-third year of King George the Second, in the year 1749, a very great addition of near ſix hundred thouſand pounds per annum, was begun to be gradually made to the ſinking fund, by an act of Parliament, for reducing the ſeveral annuities then bearing four per cent. to the ſeveral rates of intereſt therein mentioned, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. The principal ſum payable at the Exchequer, of —	312,000	0	0
II. Capital Bank-ſtock — — —	8,486,800	0	0
III. Certain annuities transferable at the Bank —	18,402,472	0	10
IV. Capital ſtock of the Eaſt India Company — —	3,200,000	0	0
V. Capital South Sea ſtock, and old and new South Sea annuity ſtock	27,302,203	5	6½
Total,	57,703,475	6	4½

And it being the united opinion of the King and Parliament, that nothing can ſo effectually contribute to make trade flouriſh, as the leſſening the public debts and incumbrances, conſiſtent with juſtice and public faith; it was therefore hereby enacted, “ That all the proprietors of the ſaid public debts, incurred before Michaelmas 1749, who ſhall, on or before the twenty-eighth of February 1749-50, ſubſcribe their names, or ſignify their conſent to accept of an intereſt of three per cent. per annum, to commence from the twenty-fifth of December 1757, ſhall, in lieu of their preſent intereſt, receive four per cent. per annum, until the twenty-fifth of December 1750, and from thence three pounds ten ſhillings per cent. until the twenty-fifth of December 1757; and no part of the ſame, except what is due to the Eaſt India Company, ſhall be liable to be redeemed until the ſaid twenty-fifth of December 1757.”

This is what was called the firſt ſubſcription, becauſe, as we ſhall ſee, all the proprietors of the above-named debts did not come into this propoſed ſubſcription within the time limited by this act, although the major part of them did.

And although the ſecond ſubſcription to that reduction was not enacted till the ſpring of the year 1750, yet, for connection's ſake, we ſhall here give the ſubſtance of an act of this ſame ſeſſion, For giving further time to ſuch of the proprietors of the before-named annuities to ſubſcribe the ſame upon terms therein mentioned, and for redeeming, that is, paying off the

A. D. 1749 the principal ſums of ſuch of the ſaid annuities as ſhall not be ſo ſubſcribed: and for empowering the Eaſt India Company to raiſe certain ſums by transferable annuities.

It recites, "That great part of thoſe before-named annuities had been ſubſcribed on the "terms of the firſt-named ſtatute; it was therefore hereby enacted, that ſuch proprietors as "have not ſo ſubſcribed, and who ſhall, on or before the thirtieth of May 1750, accept of an "intereſt of three per cent. to commence from the twenty-fifth of December 1755, (in the "mean time to have the ſame terms, in other reſpects, as the former ſubſcribers have) "ſhall not be redeemable till the ſaid twenty-fifth of December 1755, may ſubſcribe on or "before the ſaid thirtieth of May 1750: and ſuch as ſhall not ſubſcribe on or before that day, "ſhall be redeemed and paid off." Thus the ſaid ſecond ſubſcribers had a reduction of their intereſt from three and a half per cent. to three per cent. two years ſooner than thoſe of the firſt ſubſcription; and ſuch as remained determined not to ſubſcribe at all, who however were not very many, were paid off their principal ſums out of the ſinking fund.

Laſtly, the Eaſt India Company were empowered, by conſent of the commiſſioners of the Treaſury, if they ſubſcribed their three million two hundred thouſand pound ſtock, and their one million annuities, by the thirtieth of May 1750, to borrow any ſums not exceeding four million two hundred thouſand pounds, by ſale of annuities, viz. three million two hundred thouſand pounds, after the ſeveral rates of intereſt, in the terms of this ſecond ſubſcription, and one million more at the rate of three per cent. per annum: with which the Eaſt India Company accordingly complied.

For promoting of the ſilk manufacture of Great Britain, an act of Parliament of the ſaid twenty-third of King George the Second, paſſed, "whereby the duties till now payable on "raw-ſilk imported from China by the Eaſt India Company, were reduced to the ſame duty "payable on raw-ſilk from Italy."

In the ſaid twenty-third of King George the Second, For the encouraging of the Growth and Culture of Raw-ſilk in his Majeſty's Colonies or Plantations in America, it was enacted, "That as it will greatly tend to the increaſe and improvement of the ſilk manufactures of this "kingdom to encourage the growth of raw-ſilk in his Majeſty's dominions in America, pro"perly certified to be really raw-ſilk of the ſaid growth and culture, the ſame may be impor"ted duty-free into the port of London, in ſhips navigated and manned as by the navigation "acts." And as its culture has ſince viſibly, though very gradually, increaſed there, and more "particularly in Carolina and Georgia, it ſeems now probable, that in a reaſonable ſpace of time thoſe two provinces may hereafter have the honour of being denominated Silk Colonies, provided they will ſteadily proceed in the ſaid culture.

From Koningſberg, the capital of what was formerly named Ducal Pruſſia, but now the capital of the kingdom of Pruſſia, by the common newſpapers of the fourth of January, 1749-50, we learned, that the commerce of that port had been more conſiderable during the year 1749, than in any of the preceding ones, viz. that ſix hundred and ſeventy-one ſhips had arrived there during the year 1749, from the North, England, and Holland, with all kinds of merchandize, and a great quantity of wines, brandies, &c. from France, Spain, the Rhine, and the Moſelle: on the other hand, ſix hundred and eighty-two ſhips had, within the ſaid year, ſailed from thence, laden with corn, hemp, hides, boards, maſts, &c.

The eminent author of a pamphlet, in p. 34, under the title of Further Conſiderations upon a Reduction of the Land-Tax, ſaid to be written by R. N. Eſq. gives the public a re-

1749 markable account of the gradual increaſe of the tonnage of Great Britain's navy-royal, in three different periods, viz.

	Tons.
In the year 1715, it was — —	167,596
In the year 1727, it was — —	170,862
And in 1749, it was increaſed to —	228,215

An act of Parliament, of this ſame year, For enlarging and maintaining the Harbour of Ramſgate, &c. gave great hopes to many people, that thereby our mercantile ſhipping would find a much ſafer retreat, in caſe of ſtorms, &c. than any we have hitherto enjoyed on the coaſts of Kent and Suſſex. Its preamble ſets forth, "That frequent loſſes of the lives and properties of his Majeſty's ſubjects happen in the Downs, for want of a harbour between the North and South Forelands; the greateſt part of the ſhips employed in the trade of this nation being under a neceſſity, at going out upon, as well as in returning from their voyages, to paſs through the Downs, and frequently by contrary winds being detained there a long time, during which they, eſpecially the outward-bound ſhips, are expoſed to violent ſtorms and dangerous gales of wind, without having any ſufficient harbour to lie in, or retreat into, or from whence they can receive any aſſiſtance. And as a harbour may be made at the town of Ramſgate, convenient for the reception of ſhips of and under three hundred tons burthen, and from whence larger ſhips in diſtreſs in the Downs may be ſupplied with pilots, anchors, cables, and other aſſiſtance and neceſſaries: and by the ſmaller ſhips taking ſhelter in this harbour, the larger ſhips may take the anchorage which at preſent is occupied by the ſmaller, and by that means their anchors will be fixed in more holding ground, and the ſhips not be ſo expoſed to the ocean."—A great number therefore of honourable and eminent perſons are hereby appointed truſtees for enlarging, &c. the ſaid harbour of Ramſgate, and a duty of ſix-pence per ton on all mercantile ſhipping was hereby laid for this end, and two very fine piers have been run out a great way into the ſea, at an immenſe expence; which, however, has not hitherto anſwered the ſanguine expectations of utility which had been formed by the projectors of this ſtupendous work.

Doctor Buſching, in his New Geography of Ruſſia, gives us the amount of the value, in the year 1749, of the entire exports of Peterſburgh with all the world, being three million one hundred and eighty-four thouſand three hundred and twenty-two rubles, and their imports to be two millions nine hundred and forty-two thouſand two hundred and forty-two; whereby Ruſſia, or rather Peterſburgh, had a balance in its favour of two hundred and forty-two thouſand and eighty only: but with reſpect to Great Britain alone, it ſtood thus, viz.

	Rubles.
Exports thither from Peterſburgh, — —	2,245,573
Imports from Great Britain, — —	1,012,209
Balance againſt Great Britain and in favour of Ruſſia, was	1,233,364

Or, at four ſhillings and two-pence ſterling per ruble, is two hundred and fifty-ſix thouſand nine hundred and fifty pounds ſixteen ſhillings and eight-pence ſterling.

Hence, if that author was rightly informed, it appears,

Firſt, That Ruſſia's commerce with Britain, was not only more gainful to the former than all the reſt of Europe, but,

A. D. 1749 Secondly, That Ruſſia was this year a loſer by all the reſt of Europe of no leſs than nine hundred and ninety-one thouſand two hundred and eighty-four rubles, being the difference of what they gained by Britain alone, and the ſaid two hundred and forty-two thouſand and eighty gained from all Europe, Britain included.

Thirdly, We hereby learn, how much it is Ruſſia's intereſt to cultivate the friendſhip of Great Britain; and we may add, how much it is the intereſt of the latter to leſſen the ſaid balance as ſoon as poſſible, as well as that with the other northern countries, of which we wiſh we had an equally diſtinct and adequate account.

1750 At the opening of the ſeſſion of the Britiſh Parliament at the cloſe of the year 1749, the King, in his ſpeech, having recommended to their conſideration the improvement of the fiſhery, the Houſe of Commons thereupon appointed a committee to enquire into the ſtate, and to conſider of means for improving the white-herring, cod, &c. fiſheries. And, a meeting being held in the city, of many eminent gentlemen and merchants, in the beginning of the year 1750, (new ſtile) it was propoſed to form a joint-ſtock of five hundred thouſand pounds, provided the legiſlature would grant an encouragement of four per cent. per annum on that capital, when employed in the following manner, viz.

“ I. Upon the payment of three hundred thouſand pounds thereof into the Bank of England, the intereſt thereon ſhall commence, but ſhould not be payable until one hundred thouſand pounds thereof ſhould be actually employed in the ſaid fiſhery.

“ II. That upon payment of the remaining two hundred thouſand pounds into the Bank, the intereſt thereon ſhould commence in like manner; but not be payable until another one hundred thouſand pounds ſhould be further employed in the fiſhery.” On this occaſion, ſeveral pamphlets and newſpapers attempted to demonſtrate the feaſibility of Great Britain's gaining from the Dutch the bulk of the white herring fiſhery. Hereupon an act of Parliament, paſſed in the ſame ſeſſion, For the encouragement of the White Herring Fiſhery; the preamble whereof ſets forth,

“ That the carrying on and improvement thereof are of great conſequence to theſe kingdoms, tending to great advantage to our trade and navigation, and for employing and providing for great numbers of induſtrious poor; provided the ſame could be carried on with a ſufficient ſtock, under proper regulations; and that reaſonable encouragement be given to ſuch perſons as are willing to carry on the ſaid fiſheries.

“ For the encouragement therefore of ſuch perſons, and for the better regulation of the ſaid trade, and for preventing frauds and impoſitions in the management thereof, it was enacted, that the King, by letters-patent, may incorporate a number of gentlemen, herein named, and all others who ſhall be entitled to any ſhare in the capital ſum of five hundred thouſand pounds, to be one body politic and corporate, by the name of The Society of the Free Britiſh Fiſhery; for the term of twenty-one years; during which time they are every three years to elect a governor, preſident, vice-preſident, council, and other officers,—who may make bye-laws for the management of the trade,—may direct what ſeals or marks ſhall be put on the barrels or caſks of their fiſh, for the counterfeiting whereof, a penalty of five hundred pounds ſhall be incurred for each offence. This corporation may make calls on their members; the firſt and ſecond payments to be each ten per cent. of their ſubſcriptions; and the ſubſequent payments to be by the direction of a general court of the ſociety. In failure of anſwering of ſuch calls, the ſociety may diſpoſe, after thirty days previous notice in the London Gazette, of ſo much of the ſtock of ſuch defaulter as ſhall produce the ſum

A. D.

1750 ſo called in. Three per cent. per annum, upon every hundred pounds actually employed in the ſaid fiſhery, ſhall be paid to the proprietors of the ſaid ſtock for fourteen years to come, by the receiver general of the cuſtoms, half yearly. The ſociety ſhall employ one hundred thouſand pounds at leaſt, within eighteen months after the date of ſuch ſubſcription; and accounts of the monies which ſhall be ſo employed, ſhall be annually laid before the Parliament. And if loſs ſhall ariſe by any year's adventure, and there ſhould be gain by ſucceeding years, the gain ſhall be employed to make good the veſſels and fiſhing ſtock to the full value of the ſaid original ſum of one hundred thouſand pounds before any dividend ſhall be made.

" A bounty of thirty ſhillings per ton ſhall alſo be annually paid out of the cuſtoms, for fourteen years to come, to the owners of all decked veſſels from twenty to eighty tons burden, which ſhall be built after the commencement of this act, for the uſe of, and fitted out and employed in the ſaid fiſheries, whether by this ſociety, or any other perſons: ſuch veſſel to be a decked buſs or veſſel, built in Great Britain, and ſhall proceed thereon from ſome port of Great Britain, manned and navigated as the law directs;—and with a ſufficient quantity of fiſhing nets and ſtores:—certificates to be produced before the collector and comptroller of the reſpective Britiſh ports, that it is their firm purpoſe to proceed therein, either to Braſſa Sound in Shetland, and be at the rendezvous of the fiſhery there, on or before the eleventh of June, and ſhall not ſhoot or wet their nets before the thirteenth of the ſame month, and ſhall continue fiſhing amongſt the ſhoals of herrings, as they move ſouthward, to the firſt of October; or they ſhall proceed to Campbell-town in Argyleſhire, and be at the rendezvous of the fiſheries there, on or before the firſt of September, and continue fiſhing to the thirty-firſt of December, unleſs they ſhall ſooner have compleated their lading of fiſh;—ſhall keep a journal of their proceedings,—of the quantity of fiſh they ſhall diſpatch away to foreign markets in their tenders before they come into port,—and of the particular quantity they ſhall bring into port with them;—to carry out twelve Wincheſter buſhels of ſalt for every laſt of fiſh ſhe is capable of holding, to be barrelled up in new barrels—ſhall have two fleets of tanned nets for every veſſel of ſeventy tons. Every veſſel of twenty tons ſhall have ſix men, and for veſſels of greater burden one man more for every five tons.

" It is expreſſed, that this act ſhall not exclude any of the King's ſubjects, though not of this ſociety, from fiſhing for white herrings, cods, &c. in the ſame manner they might have done before this act. Any number of perſons who ſhall ſubſcribe ten thouſand pounds or more into the ſociety, and ſhall carry on the fiſhery under their own management, and on their own account of profit and loſs, conformably to the directions of this act, except their being obliged to uſe the marks of the ſociety, and from the port named by them; if they do ſubſcribe under the name of the fiſhing chamber of ſuch city, town, or port reſpectively, and ſhall ſend their account of monies expended in the ſaid fiſheries, atteſted by three of the committee appointed for managing the matters of the ſaid chamber, and be alſo ſigned by their accountant, making oath of its being a true account, which account to be tranſmitted to the ſociety in London, whoſe accountant ſhall enter the ſame as a ſum expended in the ſaid fiſheries by the ſociety, in the account which he ſhall deliver to the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms, as aforeſaid; the ſaid chamber ſhall receive three per cent. as the ſociety do for other monies employed by them, after deducting the neceſſary charges ariſing

" from

A. D. 1750 " from the receipt of the ſame. Such chambers as ſhall fiſh on their own account ſhall not " have any profit or loſs, ariſing from the trade of the ſociety."

Purſuant to this ſtatute, his Majeſty's charter of incorporation was granted, being dated on the eleventh of October 1750. And,

Although the ſucceſs of this moſt public ſpirited undertaking has not hitherto anſwered the expectations of the worthy promoters of it, in favour of whoſe generous zeal too much can hardly be ſaid, yet it is to be hoped, and greatly to be wiſhed, that by further trials they may at length ſucceed. It is indeed extremely difficult to beat another nation out of a trade they have ſo long proſpered in, even with the above great encouragement from the public, and more eſpecially ſo frugal a people as the Dutch, who can content themſelves with ſmaller gains than other nations, and carry on the fiſhery every one on his own private bottom. We ſhall therefore ſuſpend any additional remarks, and only join in the univerſal wiſh of all true Britons for it ſucceſs. Laſtly, by a ſtatute of the thirtieth of the ſaid King, in the year 1757, inſtead of thirty ſhillings per ton, the ſame is increaſed to fifty ſhillings per ton, bounty, on all the ſhips built and employed by this Fiſhery Company, with certain regulations relating to their nets, &c.

The many difficulties ſtarted by the court of Spain, againſt the carrying on of the South Sea Company's Aſſiento trade; the oppreſſions of the Spaniſh officers and governors in the Weſt Indies; the frauds too obviouſly committed, on the other hand, by that company's agents in thoſe parts, in ſpite of all the company's regulations and reſtrictions; and the complaints of the Britiſh merchants trading to Cadiz; ſeemed now all to concur, at both courts, for putting a final period to a trade which, without any ſubſtantial benefit to Great Britain, had given inſuperable umbrage to the Court of Madrid: ſo that both courts were the more eaſily brought into the treaty of Madrid, concluded on the fifth of October, (*N. S.*) 1750, viz.

" The ambaſſadors of both Kings, at the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, in the year 1748, having then agreed to regulate, at a proper time and place, the equivalent which Spain ſhould " give in conſideration of the non-enjoyment of the remaining years of the ſaid Aſſiento of " negroes, and of the annual ſhip granted to Great Britain; their ſaid Britannic and Catholic " Majeſties have now agreed on the following articles, viz.

" I. His Britannic Majeſty yields to his Catholic Majeſty his right to the enjoyment of the " Aſſiento of negroes, and of the annual ſhip, during the four years ſtipulated by the ſaid treaty " of Aix-la-Chapelle.

" II. His Britannic Majeſty, in conſideration of a compenſation of one hundred thouſand " pounds ſterling, which his Catholic Majeſty promiſes to pay, either at Madrid or London, " to the ſaid company, within three months at lateſt, yields to his Catholic Majeſty all that " may be due to that company for balance of accounts, or ariſing in any manner whatſoever " from the ſaid Aſſiento: ſo that the ſaid compenſation ſhall be eſteemed a full and entire ſatisfaction on the part of his Catholic Majeſty, and ſhall extinguiſh, from this preſent time, " for the future and for ever, all right, pretenſion, or demand, which might be formed in conſequence of the ſaid Aſſiento, or annual ſhip, directly or indirectly, on the part of his Britannic Majeſty, or on that of the ſaid company.

" III. The Catholic King yields to his Britannic Majeſty all his pretenſions or demands in " conſequence of the ſaid Aſſiento and annual ſhip, as well with regard to the articles already

" liquidated

A. D. 1750 liquidated, as to thoſe which may be either eaſy or difficult to liquidate, ſo that no mention can ever be made of them hereafter on either ſide.

"IV. His Catholic Majeſty conſents, that the Britiſh ſubjects ſhall not be bound to pay higher or other duties, or upon other evaluations for goods which they ſhall carry into or out of the different ports of his Catholic Majeſty, than thoſe paid on the ſame goods in the time of King Charles II. of Spain, ſettled by the cedulas and ordonnances of that King or his predeceſſors. And although the favour or allowance, called *Pie del Fardo*, be not founded upon any royal ordonnance, nevertheleſs, his Catholic Majeſty declares, that it ſhall be obſerved now, and for the future, as an inviolable law: and all the above-mentioned duties ſhall be exacted and levied, now and for the future, with the ſame advantages and favours to the ſaid ſubjects.

"V. His Catholic Majeſty allows the ſaid ſubjects," *i. e.* the Britiſh ſubjects, "to take and gather ſalt in the iſland of Tortudos, in the Weſt Indies, without any hindrance whatſoever, as they did in the time of the ſaid King Charles II.

"VI. He alſo conſents that the ſaid ſubjects ſhall not pay any where higher or other duties than thoſe which his Catholic Majeſty's ſubjects pay in the ſame place.

"VII His Catholic Majeſty grants, that the ſaid ſubjects ſhall enjoy all the rights, prileges, franchiſes, exemptions, and immunities whatſoever, which they enjoyed before the laſt war, by virtue of cedulas or royal ordonnances, and by the articles of the treaty of peace and commerce made at Madrid in the year 1667;—and they ſhall be treated in Spain in the ſame manner as the moſt favoured nation; and conſequently, no nation ſhall pay leſs duties upon wool or other merchandizes, which they ſhall bring into or carry out of Spain, by land," (this clauſe more eſpecially reſpects the French nation) "than the ſaid ſubjects ſhall pay upon the ſame merchandizes, which they bring in or carry out by ſea. And all the rights, privileges, franchiſes, exemptions, and immunities, which ſhall be granted or permitted to any nation whatever, ſhall alſo be granted and permitted to the ſaid ſubjects: and his Britannic Majeſty conſents, that the ſame be granted and permitted to the ſubjects of Spain, in his Britannic Majeſty's kingdoms.

"VIII. His Catholic Majeſty promiſes to uſe all poſſible endeavours, on his part, to aboliſh all innovations for the future, which may have been introduced into commerce. And his Britannic Majeſty likewiſe promiſes to uſe all poſſible endeavours to aboliſh all innovations, and to forbear them for the future.

"IX. Their Britannic and Catholic Majeſties confirm, by the preſent treaty, the laſt treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and all the other treaties therein confirmed, in all their articles and clauſes; excepting thoſe which have been derogated from by the preſent treaty: as likewiſe the treaty of commerce concluded at Utrecht, in the year 1713; thoſe articles excepted which are contrary to the preſent treaty, which ſhall be aboliſhed and of no force; and, namely, the three articles of the ſaid treaty, commonly called explanatory.

"X. All the reciprocal differences, rights, demands, and pretenſions, which may have ſubſiſted between the two crowns of Great Britain and Spain, in which no other nation whatever has any part, intereſt, or right of intervention, being thus accommodated and extinguiſhed by this particular treaty; the two ſaid moſt ſerene Kings engage themſelves mutually to the punctual execution of this treaty of reciprocal compenſation."

This is truly a moſt definitive treaty, in the ſtricteſt ſenſe, as it relates purely to differences between Great Britain and Spain, without any relation to, or connection with, any

other

A. D. 1750 other nation: and accordingly, it has hitherto, till very lately, been well obſerved on both ſides: and hereby a period was abſolutely put to all foreign commerce whatever of the South Sea Company.

In this ſame year 1750, the twenty-third of King George II. a Britiſh act of Parliament paſſed, To encourage the Importation of Pig and Bar Iron from his Majeſty's Colonies in America, and to prevent the Erection of any Mill or other Engine for ſlitting or rolling of Iron, or any plating Forge to work with a Tilt-hammer; or any Furnace for making of Steel in any of the ſaid Colonies.

The title of this ſtatute, which alone is ſufficient in and for our general deſign, plainly ſhews, how jealous our legiſlature was, at that time, to prevent our greatly-increaſing northern-colony people from going far into manufactures, which might interfere with thoſe of their mother-country. Nevertheleſs, as our continental colonies are increaſing faſt in people, ſurely ſome latitude muſt and will be hereafter allowed in this reſpect; as the proportionable increaſe of our people there, will, undoubtedly, occaſion a like or greater increaſe of our general commerce thither.

By a ſtatute of the thirtieth of King George the Second, this act of the twenty-third of this King, for importing of bar iron from America into the port of London, was extended to all the ports of Great Britain: and ſome clauſes, in the firſt named act, of leſs importance, are hereby repealed.

In the ſame twenty-third of King George II. an act of Parliament paſſed, For extending and improving the Trade to Africa.

The preamble of this ſtatute juſtly remarks, “ That the trade to and from Africa being very “ advantageous to Great Britain, and neceſſary for the ſupplying her plantations and colonies “ with a ſufficient number of negroes, at reaſonable rates, ought, for that reaſon, to be free “ and open to all his Majeſty's ſubjects: it was therefore enacted, that it ſhall be lawful for “ all the King's ſubjects to trade to and from any place in Africa, between the port of Sallee, “ in South Barbary, and the Cape of Good Hope, without any reſtraint whatſoever, except “ as herein after expreſſed, viz.

“ I. All his Majeſty's ſubjects, who ſhall trade to and from Africa, between Cape Blanco “ and the Cape of Good Hope, ſhall, for ever hereafter, be deemed a body corporate “ and politic, by the name of, The Company of Merchants trading to Africa, with per- “ petual ſucceſſion, and a common ſeal; and may ſue and be ſued, &c. as other corporations.

“ II. All the Britiſh forts, ſettlements, and factories, on the coaſt of Africa, from Cape “ Blanco to the Cape of Good Hope, and all coaſts, iſlands, rivers, regions, &c. within the “ ſaid limits, which are now claimed or poſſeſſed by the Royal African Company of Eng- “ land, or which may hereafter be in the poſſeſſion of the company hereby eſtabliſhed, “ ſhall, from the paſſing of an act for diveſting the African Company of their charter, “ forts, and all their other property on the coaſt of Africa, be abſolutely veſted in the “ new Company, eſtabliſhed by this act, and their ſucceſſors, to the intent that the ſaid “ forts, &c. ſhall be employed only for the protection, encouragement, and defence of the “ ſaid trade.

“ III. Yet this new company ſhall not trade to or from Africa in their corporate capacity, “ neither ſhall they have any joint or transferable ſtock, nor ſhall they borrow money on “ their common ſeal.

“ VI. The

1750 “ IV. The direction of the affairs of this new company ſhall be by a committee of nine perſons, to be choſen annually; to meet as often as ſhall be neceſſary, in ſome place within the city of London, the majority of whom being aſſembled, ſhall have full power to make orders for the governing and improving the forts, factories, &c.—So as no orders nor regulations of theirs ſhall lay any reſtraint whatſoever on the trade or traders, contrary to the intent of this act.

“ V. Such as intend to trade to Africa, and who ſhall, on or before the thirtieth of June, 1750, pay forty ſhillings each to the Chamberlain of London for their freedom of this company, are impowered to meet at Guildhall, and chooſe three perſons,—and, at Briſtol, ſhall have paid forty ſhillings into the hands of the Clerk of the Merchants Hall of that city, to chooſe three perſons,—and the like at Liverpool, for chooſing of three perſons:—and the nine perſons, ſo choſen, ſhall be the firſt annual committee.

“ VI. In all future elections, the committee ſhall be nominated on the third of July yearly, in manner following, viz. three ſhall be nominated by the freemen of the ſaid company admitted in London, and three by each of the other two places, viz. Briſtol and Liverpool. And the freemen of this company, in each of the ſaid three places, may chooſe other committee-men in the place of ſuch as ſhall die or be removed, or who ſhall refuſe to act.—And if they, or any of the three places, neglect to chooſe ſuch, then the remainder, though leſs in number than nine, may act as the committee, until next year's election.—In caſe of an equality of voices at any election, the Lord Mayor of London, and the Mayors of Briſtol and Liverpool, reſpectively, ſhall determine which of ſuch perſons ſhall be the committee-man.

“ From and after the thirtieth of June 1750, any other of his Majeſty's ſubjects, who ſhall trade to or from Africa, ſhall be admitted freemen of the ſaid company at London, Briſtol, or Liverpool, upon payment of forty ſhillings as aforeſaid; but ſhall not vote at the election of committee-men until one year after their admiſſion.—The ſaid freedom-money of forty ſhillings ſhall be accounted for to the annual committee.—No perſon ſhall be a committee man above three years ſucceſſively.—The committee may inveſt the ſaid money in their hands, in the purchaſe of goods and ſtores for Africa, there to be applied for the ſole uſe, preſervation, &c. of their forts and ſettlements, and for the wages, ſalaries, &c. of their officers, &c. employed there; but the committee ſhall not export from Africa, any negroes or other goods in return; nor ſhall, in any other manner, carry on a trade to or from Africa:—and an account of the committee's receipts and payments ſhall be kept, and lie open at their office in London, to be peruſed, gratis, by any member of the company.

“ The Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations may remove any of the committee-men, or the officers and ſervants of this company, upon miſbehaviour.—And the committee ſhall annually render an account of their tranſactions to the ſaid Board of Trade and Plantations, or oftener, if required.

“ The committee, out of the monies they ſhall receive, may deduct annually eight hundred pounds, for defraying, in the firſt place, the ſalaries of their clerks, &c. at the ſaid three places, and all other charges of management; and the reſidue of that ſum ſhall be divided among themſelves, as a compenſation for their trouble.

“ The committee's accounts ſhall be annually examined upon oath by the Curſitor Baron of the Exchequer, and they ſhall lay a copy of ſuch accounts, &c. before the Parliament in

A. D. 1750 " every ſeſſion, as alſo before the general meetings of their own members, held in London, " Briſtol, and Liverpool.

" VII. The forts, warehouſes, &c. of this company, ſhall, at all times, be free to all his " Majeſty's ſubjects, to be uſed as warehouſes for depoſiting of gun-powder, gold, elephants " teeth, wax, gums, and drugs; and no other goods: and ſhall alſo be free and open in caſe " of neceſſity or danger, to all his Majeſty's ſubjects, for the ſafety of their perſons and effects. " Three Maſters of the Court of Chancery, whereof the Accountant General of that court to " be one, ſhall be commiſſioners for examining and allowing the claims of the creditors of the " Royal African Company; after which that company ſhall be diveſted of their charter, and " be diſſolved."

Thus this very conſiderable branch of Britiſh commerce again aſſumed a new appearance, after having paſſed, as we have ſhewn, through ſeveral other different conſtitutions, and various conditions. What has by this act been eſtabliſhed, remains ſtill in being, and with general approbation; though there are not wanting ſome, who ſtill think, that ſo important a trade ought to be under a ſtricter government, and even in a joint-ſtock corporation, as in former times: of which opinion, time and the experience of the traders to that extended coaſt, will determine the validity.

1751 In this year 1751, Doctor William Douglas, of Boſton, in New England, publiſhed there, his Summary Hiſtorical and Political of the firſt Planting, &c. of the Britiſh Continent Colonies of America: in which he gives a very juſt, though conciſe view of the entire country, uſually known by the general name of New England, as at preſent divided into four diſtinct or ſeparate governments, viz.

Firſt, The firſt and principal one, known by the name of the province of the Maſſachuſet's Bay, of which Boſton is the capital city, contains two hundred thouſand white inhabitants: the government of which province is in the crown, but the property is in the repreſentatives of the people.

The ſecond province is Connecticut, containing one hundred thouſand white people.

Thirdly, Rhode Iſland, containing thirty thouſand white people; in both which laſt-named provinces, the government and property are in the repreſentatives of the people.

Fourthly, New Hampſhire, in which both the government and property are in the crown; it contains twenty-four thouſand white inhabitants.

The total white people in all New England, then was, three hundred and fifty-four thouſand.

Doctor Douglas had lived many years in that country, and is allowed, by all we have converſed with from thence, to have given a true account of the number of people in New England at that period.

We have, in its place, ſhewn, that the Danes had anciently a colony in the country, by them properly called Groenland, *i. e.* Greenland, and by others Old Greenland, lying northweſt of Norway, being a large extended country, ſituated north of Davis's Streights, in a very inhoſpitable climate, and, for aught we yet know, may be properly a part of North America. The ſaid lamentable country, however, we find, by an edict of Frederic V. King of Denmark, dated at Copenhagen, the twenty-ſixth of March, 1751, is again re-ſettled by Denmark: the ſaid edict " expreſsly prohibiting all perſons, as well natives as foreigners, from " reſorting to the colonies eſtabliſhed by us" ſays the King, " in our country of Greenland, " which we have granted to a general and privileged company excluſively; we being heredi" tary lord of that country; upon pain of ſeizure and confiſcation againſt all ſuch as ſhall

trade

A. D. 1751 " trade thither in prejudice of the ſaid company's right.—The limits ſhall extend fifteen " miles on both ſides of each colony, including therein all the places lying between the weſt- " ern iſles and the bay called in the maps Blackbird's Bay." This ſettlement is chiefly intended for the whale and ſeal fiſhery, and for peltry. Of its progreſs we may poſſibly learn more hereafter.

The South Sea Company having propoſed to the government, to accept of an intereſt of four per cent. on their capital ſtock of three million ſix hundred and ſixty-two thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four pounds eight ſhillings and ſix pence until Chriſtmas 1757, and then to ſtand reduced to three pounds per cent. per annum; provided, that the manner of the receipt from the Exchequer, and the charges of management upon the preſent old and new South Sea annuities, and on their ſaid capital ſtock, be continued as they now are: an act of Parliament, in conſequence thereof, paſſed in the twenty-fourth year of King George II. For reducing the ſame accordingly, upon thoſe Terms; and for preventing of Frauds committed by the Officers and Servants of the ſaid Company, viz.

" I. After Chriſtmas 1757, their ſaid capital ſtock ſhall be reduced to three per cent. until redemption thereof; in full diſcharge of all demands of the Company on the King of " Spain, on account of the Aſſiento or annual ſhip, or on any account whatſoever, over and " above the ſum of one hundred thouſand pounds, paid purſuant to treaty.

" II. The company ſhall continue to receive from the Exchequer, out of the funds appropriated for that purpoſe, what monies ſhall from time to time become due for the intereſt " thereof, and charges of management, upon ſuch part of the old and new South Sea annuities as are not redeemed, and on their capital ſtock: and all the rights and exemptions with " regard to the redemption of their ſaid capitals, ſhall be confirmed in the ſame manner as " they now ſtand, and enjoy the ſame.

" III. If any officer or ſervant of the ſaid company, intruſted with any note, bill, dividend " warrant, bond, deed, or ſecurity, money, or other effects belonging to the company, or " to other perſons, depoſited with the ſaid company, or with him as an officer or ſervant of " the ſaid company, ſhall ſecrete, embezzle, or run away with the ſame, and be convicted " thereof, in due form of law; he ſhall be deemed guilty of felony, and ſuffer death as a felon, " without benefit of clergy."

Thus, for a national benefit, viz. for prevention of future diſputes between Great Britain and Spain, this company was forced to be hereby legally debarred from all future claims on the court of Spain, though certainly very conſiderable and equitable ones, purſuant to the before-named treaty of Madrid, whereby our King agreed to accept of the ſaid one hundred thouſand pounds for the company, in full compenſation for all their conſiderable loſſes. So that between their very great loſſes ſuſtained by their ill-fated Aſſiento contract, and by the national undertaking of the whale fiſhery, that company may truly and impartially be ſaid to merit not only or barely the compaſſion, but even the particular regard of the public.

By Dr. Buſching's new Geography of Ruſſia, it appears, that the trade of Peterſburg was conſiderably increaſed: for, in the year 1744, the number of ſhips arriving in that port from England, Holland, France, Norway, Denmark, Lubeck, Hamburg, Stetin, Roſtock, Kiel, Pruſſia, Sweden, Dantzic, &c, amounted to two hundred and ſixty-four; but, in the courſe of this year 1751, they amounted to two hundred and ninety ſhips.

By a ſtatute of this ſame twenty-fourth year of King George II. For enabling his Majeſty to raiſe the ſeveral Sums of Money therein mentioned, by Exchequer Bills, &c. the treaſury

A. D. 1751 was impowered to iſſue two millions two hundred and ſeventy-ſix thouſand eight hundred and ninety-three pounds eleven ſhillings and ſeven pence, being the total principal ſum remaining payable upon the unſubſcribed old and new South Sea annuities, (after deducting forty-eight thouſand one hundred and twenty-nine pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and four-pence) by this act directed to be ſubſcribed into ſaid annuities; towards redeeming the ſaid annuities :—any part of which ſum might be re-placed, by ſuch as were truſtees for certain purpoſes, as far as ſuch monies would go at the current market price, either in the ſaid annuities, or in other purchaſes, public or private.—And whereas ſeveral perſons, not being timely appriſed of the notice given for ſubſcribing in their ſeveral annuities, being in the King's colonies in America, and other foreign parts, &c. the ſums which, on the twenty-eighth of February 1749, ſhould be entitled to the benefit of thoſe ſubſcriptions, amounting to twelve thouſand two hundred and ten pounds two ſhillings and one penny in new South Sea annuities, and thirteen thouſand four hundred and forty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings and three pence in old South Sea annuities; they ſhall be entitled to the vote of the Houſe of Commons of the twenty-firſt of March 1749, as amply as if they had ſeverally accepted the ſaid terms on or before the thirtieth of May 1750.

On Wedneſday the twenty-ſecond of May 1751, the ever-famous act of the Britiſh legiſlature, of the twenty-fourth year of King George the Second, received the royal aſſent, For regulating the Commencement of the Year, and for correcting the Calendar now in Uſe.—*i. e* For aboliſhing the old-ſtile, and eſtabliſhing the new-ſtile, already in uſe in moſt parts of Chriſtendom.

Its preamble ſets forth, "That the legal ſupputation of the year in England, which begins on the twenty-fifth of March, hath been attended with divers inconveniencies," (ſtrange that this was not rectified long ago !) "as it differs from other nations, and the legal method of computation in Scotland, and the common uſage throughout the whole kingdom; and that thereby frequent miſtakes in the dates of deeds and other writings are occaſioned, and diſputes ariſe therefrom. And that the Julian Calendar, now in uſe throughout the Britiſh dominions, hath been diſcovered to be erroneous, by means whereof, the vernal equinox, which at the time of the Council of Nice, in the year 325, happened on or about the twenty-firſt of March, now happens on the ninth or tenth of the ſame month : and the error ſtill increaſing, and, if not remedied, would, in time, occaſion the ſeveral equinoxes and ſolſtices to fall at very different times in the civil year from what they formerly did, which might tend to miſlead perſons ignorant of ſuch alteration. And as a method of correcting the calendar, ſo as that the equinoxes and ſolſtices may for the future fall on the ſame nominal days on which they happened at the time of the ſaid General Council, hath been eſtabliſhed, and is now generally practiſed by almoſt all other nations of Europe : and, as it will be of general convenience to merchants, and other perſons correſponding with other nations and countries, and will tend to prevent miſtakes and diſputes concerning the dates of letters and accounts, if the like correction be received and eſtabliſhed in his Majeſty's dominions."

That is to ſay, in other words, that the mean tropical ſolar year, or that mean ſpace of time wherein the ſun or earth, departing from any point of the ecliptic, returns to the ſame point again, conſiſts, according to the learned Dr. Halley's tables, of three hundred and ſixty-five days, five hours, forty-eight minutes, and fifty-five ſeconds : which being leſs, by eleven minutes and five ſeconds, than the mean Julian year, or old ſtile, conſiſting of three hundred and ſixty-five days and ſix hours, made an error in our old ſtile, hitherto followed by Great

1751 Britain, of eleven minutes and five ſeconds in each Julian year, being forty-four minutes and twenty ſeconds in every four years; and three days, one hour, fifty-three minutes, and twenty ſeconds in every four hundred Julian years, or years of our ſaid old-ſtile; and made eleven days difference between us and the greateſt part of Europe, eſpecially all of the Roman Catholic perſuaſion, and moſt of the Proteſtant ſtates alſo. The Julian year or old ſtile continued to be uſed all over Europe until Pope Gregory the Thirteenth, by the help of the beſt aſtronomers, in the year 1582, diſcovered the inconveniencies of the Julian computation, whereby it appeared, that in one hundred and twenty-nine years and three hundred and thirty-ſeven and a half days, it made an error of one whole day: and, in four hundred Julian years, an error of three days, one hour, fifty-three minutes, and twenty ſeconds, as above: and that ſince the above-named council of Nice, in the year 325, the ſaid old-ſtile had made an error of upwards of nine days, which in the year 1701 was computed to be eleven days, *i. e.* ſo much was our error at the commencement of the eighteenth century. Whereby our ſaid old-ſtile made the vernal equinox happen eleven days ſooner than by the ſaid new-ſtile it really does: ſo that our tenth of March ought to be reckoned, as it will now be, on the twenty-firſt of that month.

Pope Gregory's principal intention in that alteration was for regulating the true time of celebrating the feaſt of Eaſter; but our grand concern, in a mercantile ſenſe, was to reduce our ſtile to that of almoſt all the reſt of Europe; the difference of eleven days frequently occaſioning errors and miſtakes in buſineſs. Moreover, nothing certainly could be more inconvenient, not to ſay abſurd, than to begin our legal year on the twenty-fifth of March, whereby a whole year was frequently miſtaken in our chronological hiſtories through inadvertency: the year therefore was now to commence on the firſt of January, with all the reſt of Chriſtendom, and eſpecially with Scotland; though that country, in other reſpects, had, like England, till now kept to the old-ſtile.

It was therefore enacted, “ That, throughout all his Majeſty's dominions in Europe, Aſia,
“ Africa, and America, the ſaid old ſupputation ſhall not be uſed after the laſt day of December
“ 1751, and that the firſt of January following ſhall be accounted the firſt day of the
“ year 1752, and ſo on, in every year after: and after the ſaid firſt of January 1752, the
“ days of the months ſhall go on and be reckoned in the ſame order, and the feaſt of Eaſter,
“ and other moveable feaſts depending thereon, ſhall be aſcertained according to the ſame
“ method they now are, until the ſecond of September in 1752, incluſive, and the next day
“ ſhall be accounted the fourteenth of September, omitting, for that time only, the eleven
“ intermediate nominal days; and the following days ſhall be numbered forward in numerical
“ order from the ſaid fourteenth of September, as now uſed in the preſent calendar: and all
“ acts and writings which ſhall be made or executed upon or after the ſaid firſt of January
“ 1752, ſhall bear date according to the new method of ſupputation; and the two fixed terms
“ of St. Hilary and St. Michael in England, and the courts of great ſeſſions in the counties
“ palatine and in Wales, and the courts of general quarter ſeſſions, and general ſeſſions of
“ the peace, and all other courts and meetings and aſſemblies of any bodies politic or corporate,
“ for the election of officers or members, or for officers entering upon the execution
“ of their reſpective offices, or for any other purpoſe, which by law or uſage, &c. are to be
“ held on any fixed day of any month, or on any day depending on the beginning, or any
“ certain day of any month, (excepting courts uſually holden with fairs or marts) ſhall, after
“ the ſaid ſecond of September, be held on the ſame nominal days and times whereon they

A. D. 1751 " are now to be holden, but computed according to the new method of numbering, that is, " eleven days ſooner than the reſpective days whereon the ſame are now kept.

" The years 1800, 1900, 2100, 2200, 2300, or any other hundredth years, except every " fourth hundredth, whereof the year 2000 ſhall be the firſt, ſhall be deemed common years, " conſiſting of three hundred and ſixty-five days; and the years 2000, 2400, 2800, and every " other fourth hundredth years from the year 2000, incluſive, and all other years which by " the preſent ſupputation are eſteemed to be Biſſextile, or leap-years, ſhall for the future be " eſteemed to be Biſſextile, or leap-years, conſiſting of three hundred and ſixty-ſix days, as " is now uſed with reſpect to every fourth year.

" The feaſt of Eaſter, and the moveable feaſts thereon depending, ſhall be no longer ob- " ſerved according to the method of ſupputation now uſed, or the table prefixed to the book " of Common Prayer; and the ſaid table, and alſo the column of golden numbers, as they " are now prefixed to the reſpective days of the month in the calendar, ſhall be left out in all " future editions of the ſaid book; and the new calendar, tables, and rules, annexed to the " act, are to be prefixed in the ſtead thereof: and, from and after the ſaid ſecond of Sep- " tember, the fixed feaſts, holy-days, and faſts, of the church of England, and alſo the ſeveral " ſolemn days of thankſgiving and of faſting and humiliation, enjoined to be obſerved by " Parliament, ſhall be obſerved on the reſpective nominal days marked for the celebration of " the ſame in the new calendar; that is to ſay, on the reſpective nominal days, and the feaſt " of Eaſter, and other moveable feaſts thereon depending, ſhall be celebrated according to " the ſaid annexed calendar; and the two moveable terms of Eaſter and Trinity, and all " courts, meetings, and aſſemblies, of any bodies politic or corporate, and all markets, fairs, " and marts, and courts thereunto belonging, which, by any law, ſtatute, charter, or uſage, " are to be held and kept at any moveable time depending upon Eaſter, or other moveable " feaſt, ſhall, after the ſaid ſecond of September, be held and kept on the ſame days and " times whereon the ſame ſhall happen, according to the falling of Eaſter by the new " calendar.

" The meetings of the Court of Seſſion, and terms fixed for the Court of Exchequer in " Scotland; the April meeting of the conſervators of the great Level of the Fens, and the " holding and keeping of markets, fairs, and marts, for the ſale of goods or cattle, or for " hiring of ſervants, or for other purpoſes, which are fixed to certain nominal days of the " month, or depending on the beginning, or any certain day of any month, and all courts " kept with ſuch fairs or marts; ſhall, after the ſaid ſecond of September, be kept upon the " ſame natural days upon which the ſame would have been held if this act had not been " made; *i. e.* eleven days later than the ſame would happen according to the nominal days of " the new ſupputation of time, by which the commencement of each month, and the nominal " days thereof, are brought forward eleven days.

" But this act ſhall not accelerate or anticipate the days or times for the opening, incloſing, " or ſhutting up of grounds, common of paſture, or the days and times on which a temporary " and diſtinct property and right in any ſuch lands or grounds is to commence: but they ſhall " be reſpectively opened, and incloſed, or ſhut up, and ſhall commence on the ſame natural " days and times, after the ſaid ſecond of September, as before the making of this act; that " is, eleven days later than the ſame would happen according to the new ſupputation of " time.

1751 “ Neither ſhall this act accelerate or anticipate the times of payment of rents, annuities, or “ other monies, which ſhall become payable in conſequence of any cuſtom, uſage, leaſe, deed, “ writing, or other contract or agreement, now ſubſiſting, or which ſhall be entered into be- “ fore the ſaid fourteenth of September, or which ſhall become payable by virtue of any act “ of Parliament. Nor to accelerate the payment, or increaſe the intereſt of any money which “ ſhall become payable as aforeſaid, or the time of the delivery of any goods or other things “ whatſoever, or the commencement, or determination of any leaſes or demiſes of lands, &c. “ or other contracts or agreements, annuity, or rent, or of any grant for a term of years, “ &c. or the time of attaining the age of twenty-one years, or any other age requiſite by law, “ uſage, or writing, for the doing any act, or for any other purpoſe, by any perſons now “ born, or who ſhall be born before the ſaid fourteenth of September; or the time of the de- “ termination of any apprenticeſhip or other ſervice by indenture, or by articles under ſeal, or “ by reaſon of any ſimple contract or hiring: but all theſe ſhall commence, ceaſe, and deter- “ mine, at and upon the ſame natural days and times on which they would have happened if “ this act had not been made.”

By a ſubſequent law, of the twenty-fifth of George the Second, To amend this Act, it was enacted,

“ Firſt, That from the ſecond of September 1752, the reſpective times for opening, uſing, “ or incloſing of grounds for common paſture, and the paying of rents, &c. ſhall, if ſuch “ times are depending on any of the moveable feaſts, take place according to the new “ calendar.

“ Secondly, The annual admiſſion and ſwearing of the Lord-mayor of London, at Guild- “ hall, hereafter ſhall be on the eighth of November, and the ſolemnity of ſwearing him at “ the Court of Exchequer, at Weſtminſter, on the ninth of the ſaid month of November, “ yearly.”

It were further to be wiſhed, that, when the legiſlature was engaged in conſidering a ſubject ſo uſeful to commerce and chronology, they had turned their thoughts to the method of dating acts of Parliament from the years of the reigning King, without mentioning the year of our Lord Chriſt, as in the laws of many other nations: whereby much uncertainty and frequent miſtakes happen, in computing a number of years between a certain year of one King's reign to a certain year of another King's reign, or to the preſent time: this is frequently complained of, though not yet remedied. Yet this may eaſily be remedied in future, by ſuperadding the year of our Lord Chriſt to the year of the reigning King.

The flouriſhing and much-improved condition of the kingdom of Ireland, in this year 1751, is ſo fully expreſſed in the Right Honourable the Earl of Orrery's letters, concerning the life and writings of Dean Swift, publiſhed in this year, that we ſhall tranſcribe it, from letter xvi, p. 127.

“ The preſent ſtate of Ireland is, in general, as flouriſhing as poſſible. Agriculture is cul- “ tivated—arts and ſciences are encouraged; and in the ſpace of eighteen years, no kingdom “ can be more improved. Ireland, in relation to England, may be compared to a younger “ ſiſter, lately come of age, after having ſuffered all the miſeries of an injured minor; ſuch “ as, law ſuits, encroachments upon her property, violation of her rights, deſtruction of her “ tenants, and every evil that can be named. At length, time, and her own noble ſpirit of “ induſtry, have entirely relieved her; and, ſome little heartburnings excepted, ſhe enjoys “ the quiet poſſeſſion of a very ample fortune, ſubject, by way of acknowledgment, to certain

“ quit-

A. D. 1751 " quit-rents payable to the elder branch of her houſe: and let me add, by experience, that, " take her all in all, ſhe cannot have a greater fortune than ſhe deſerves."

The vaſt improvement of Scotland's linen manufacture, at this time, is well worth recording; between the year 1727, (when an act of Parliament paſſed for that end, whereby twenty-one truſtees were to be appointed, under the great ſeal, for ſuperintending the ſame) and this year 1751, when the following authentic account of it appeared, viz.

	Yards of Linen.	*Value.*
I. In the firſt five years from the paſſing of the ſaid act, viz. from 1728 to 1732, both included, there were made and ſtamped — — — —		£.
	17,441,161	662,938
II. Five years, from 1733 to 1737 —	23,734,136	897,254
III. Five years, from 1738 to 1742 —	23,366,863	949,221
IV. Five years, from 1743 to 1747 —	28,227,086	1,155,281
And for four years, from 1748 to 1751 —	30,172,300	1,344,814

The Britiſh Linen Company erected, in the year 1746, has been greatly inſtrumental in the advancement of that manufacture in Scotland, by advancing ready money to the poorer manufacturers for their goods; whereby they are enabled to carry on the ſame with much more ſpirit. The above-named board of truſtees do likewiſe beſtow annual premiums for the beſt manufactures; whereby a ſpirit of induſtry increaſes, more than ever, all over Scotland.—And, during the ſingle year 1754 alone, there were ſtamped eight millions nine hundred and fourteen thouſand three hundred and ſixty-nine yards of linen, worth five hundred and ſix thouſand eight hundred and ſixteen pounds eight ſhillings ſterling.

1752 The African or Guinea trade having been laid more open in a regulated company, by a ſtatute of the twenty-third of King George the Second, before recited; a compenſation was become neceſſary to be made, by way of ſatisfaction, to the old Royal African Company, for their charter, lands, forts, ſlaves, ſtores, and other effects, &c. An act therefore paſſed, in the twenty-fifth year of the ſaid King, " For the Application of a Sum of Money herein " mentioned, for thoſe Purpoſes, and for veſting thoſe Lands, Forts, &c. in the ſaid new " Company of Merchants trading to Africa:" for which ends, commiſſioners have before been appointed, for examining the claims of the ſaid late royal company, which they had already laid before the Parliament. It was now enacted, " That the ſaid late Royal African " Company ſhall, from and after the tenth of April 1752, be abſolutely diveſted of their " charter, &c. and of all their lands, forts, &c. beginning at the port of Sallee, and extending thence, ſouthward, to the Cape of Good Hope, together with all their cannon, canoe-" men, ſlaves, rights, and evidences, &c. The ſaid new company, with the conſent of the " Board of Trade and Plantations, are impowered to arm and train military forces at their " forts, and to puniſh offences, ſo as not to extend to life or limb; and to erect courts of " judicature for mercantile and maritime bargains, &c.

" II. The ſum of one hundred and twelve thouſand one hundred and forty-two pounds " three ſhillings and three-pence ſhall be applied out of the ſupplies of this ſeſſion, for the " compenſation before-mentioned to the ſaid old company's proprietors and their creditors, &c."

For the better civilizing and improving the Highlands of Scotland, and preventing of diſorders there for the future, an act of Parliament of this ſame ſeſſion paſſed, For annexing certain forfeited Eſtates in Scotland (by the rebellions of 1745 and 1746) to the Crown unalienably,

A. D. 1752 ably, and for making Satisfaction to the lawful Creditors thereupon; and to eſtabliſh a Method of managing the ſame, enacted, "That all the lands, lordſhips, baronies, &c. of Simon, late Lord Lovat, &c. ſhall, from the twenty-fifth of December, 1752, be annexed to the crown unalienable for ever, ſaving the rights and claims thereon duly entered in the Court of Seſſion. The clear income of the ſaid lands to be applied to the purpoſes of civilizing the inhabitants upon the ſaid eſtates, and other parts of the Highlands and Iſles of Scotland, the promoting amongſt them the Proteſtant religion, good government, induſtry, and manufactures, and the principles of loyalty and duty to his Majeſty, &c. and to no other uſe or purpoſe whatſoever. The King may appoint commiſſioners and truſtees for managing the ſaid eſtates, and for applying the produce for thoſe ends and purpoſes, without having any penſion or reward for the ſame. They may grant leaſes thereof for twenty-one or forty-one years, whereon the leſſees ſhall covenant to lay out on the premiſes, in buildings and other improvements, in the firſt ſeven years a ſum not leſs than five years rent,—reſerving, upon every leaſe, not leſs than three-fourths of the real annual value of the premiſſes. All ſuch leſſees ſhall take the uſual oaths to the government. No leaſe of lands or tenements, other than mines or fiſhings, ſhall be of greater annual rent than twenty pounds at the moſt. The commiſſioners, with the approbation of the Treaſury, may appoint factors on the ſaid eſtates, to whom five per cent. of the rental ſhall be allowed;—the commiſſioners are to appoint a ſurvey of the eſtates to be made, with proper plans of their extent and qualities, and what improvements may be made thereon; and an abſtract of their proceeding is to be annually reported to the Treaſury, copies whereof to be laid before the Parliament every ſeſſion.

"The King may divide large pariſhes, entirely his own, and grant proper proviſions to the miniſters of ſuch new pariſhes, out of the preſent maintenance for the miniſter of the old pariſh, and the remainder out of the rents of the ſaid eſtates, ſo as the ſtipend ſhall not exceed fifty pounds per annum, in money or value, to any one miniſter. The King may erect ſchools on the ſaid eſtates, or in any other part of the Highlands or Iſlands of Scotland, for inſtructing young perſons in reading and writing the Engliſh language, and in the ſeveral branches of agriculture and manufactures, and may erect houſes for their reception, and for carrying on ſuch manufactures by them, and for accommodating their maſters;—and may apply ſuch parts of the produce of the ſaid eſtates as ſhall be neceſſary for erecting ſuch ſchools, providing ſalaries for the teachers, for cloathing and maintaining ſuch young perſons, and for ſupplying the ſchools with utenſils and materials for agriculture and manufactures; and for raiſing of flax, &c. as his Majeſty ſhall direct. And the King may impower the commiſſioners to allot portions of land for the uſe of ſuch ſchools, or to apply ſuch part of the clear rent of the lands as he ſhall direct, in the purchaſe of portions of land to be allotted for ſuch ſchools. His Majeſty may impower the commiſſioners to grant out in property, portions of ground, not exceeding ten acres to one perſon, to perſons well-affected, who ſhall take the oaths to the government, and oblige themſelves to erect dwelling-houſes, &c. and gardens thereupon: ſuch grounds to be held feu of his Majeſty, for payment of a yearly feu duty equal to ſuch a proportion of the rent as ſhall correſpond to the ground feued out, &c.

"The King may alſo, out of the rents of the eſtates aforeſaid, erect priſons on ſuch parts of the aforeſaid lands, or other parts of the Highlands as he ſhall think fit, and the ſame ſhall be deemed lawful priſons,—and allowance for the maintenance of indigent priſoners, &c."

A. D. 1752 Of this very good law, poſterity will reap the principal benefit; beginnings being already making in ſeveral parts of the Highlands for working-ſchools, to which the moſt laudable Society in Scotland for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge in the Highlands, &c. have lent a helping hand, by erecting ſeveral ſchools out of their own income, for the inſtruction of the children: new villages are alſo begun: manufactures, as well as agriculture, are ſet on foot, where none were known before: ſo that it is highly probable, that in half a century more, the moſt uncultivated parts of that country will wear a very different aſpect.

“For ſeveral years paſt,” ſays Dr. Buſching, in his New Geography, “between four and “five thouſand ſhips have ſailed annually through the Sound: but in 1752, above ſix thouſand ſhips, (a number unheard of before) paſſed through thoſe ſtraits. In general, that toll “is on an equal footing with reſpect to all nations, excepting the Hamburgers, who muſt “pay more than others. The Engliſh, Dutch, Swediſh, and French ſhips are not ſearched, “when provided with proper paſſes, according to treaties, and pay down only one per cent. “for ſuch goods as are not ſpecified in the tariff; but all other nations pay one and a quarter “per cent. and muſt ſubmit to be ſearched. With regard to the Hans-towns on the Baltic, “there is a great variety in the toll they pay; for almoſt every one of thoſe towns is treated “with in particular.”

In this ſame year 1752, his Sicilian Majeſty, ſince King of Spain, eſtabliſhed, by patent, a company of commerce at Meſſina, principally intended for erecting of Manufactures of ſilk, ſtuffs, and camblets; the ſaid company, for ten years to come, to be exempted from all kinds of duties: and, for the further encouragement hereof, his Majeſty has limited the exportation of raw-ſilk to half the wonted quantity. Thus, almoſt every corner of Europe, in our age, ſtrives to gain ſome part of the commercial advantages, which they clearly obſerve to contribute ſo much to the enrichment and exaltation of ſome other nations.

We the ſame year learned from Spain, that they are there ſtriving for the increaſe of commerce and manufactures: that of late they have, in the kingdom of Valencia, two thouſand looms for ſilk and woollen; one thouſand in Granada; five hundred in Catalonia; and that, throughout all Spain, they reckon in all ten thouſand ſuch looms, in ſilk, gold, and ſilver tiſſue, middling and coarſe woollen cloths, bayes, ſerges, camblets, &c. “And,” ſays Don Jeronymo de Uſtariz, a judicious Spaniſh author, “they are projecting no fewer than ſixty “thouſand new looms, whereby not only to ſupply themſelves and their Indies, but to ex- “port to other European nations, and to erect I know not how many other new manufac- “tures: of all which it will be right to ſuſpend our belief till experience clears it up.”

1753 By a ſupplemental act of the Britiſh Parliament, of the twenty-ſixth of George the Second, To explain, amend, and render more effectual an Act of the twenty-third Year of George the Second, entitled, An Act for the Encouragement of the Britiſh White-Herring Fiſhery; and for regulating the ſaid Fiſhery according to the Calendar now in Uſe, &c.

I. It was now enacted, “That the commencement and duration of the fiſheries, as directed “by the former act, ſhall hereafter be conformable to the calendar now in uſe.

“II. The ſociety ſhall not be entitled to the bounty of thirty ſhillings per ton, in reſpect of “ſuch veſſels as ſhall return into port at the end of the fiſhery with a leſs number of hands “than is required (by the firſt act) to have on board at the rendezvous, unleſs it ſhall appear “that ſuch number hath been reduced by death, ſickneſs, or deſertion, without any fraud or “colluſion on the part of the ſociety: and the ſaid veſſels are allowed, between the intervals

1753 “ of the Shetland and Yarmouth fiſheries, to put into any port of Great Britain or Ireland, for the purpoſe of changing their nets, and preparing for the Yarmouth fiſhery; of which fiſhery the fleet of nets may be of any depth not under five fathoms.

“ III. That the quantity of ſuch white-herrings as ſhall hereafter be ſent by the ſaid ſociety or their agents to foreign markets, immediately from ſea, without being firſt brought into port, ſhall be aſcertained by the oath of the ſociety's ſuperintendant of the fiſhery. And whereas the place appointed by the firſt act for the rendezvous of the veſſels on the firſt of September is, in many caſes, found inconvenient, it was now enacted, that their veſſels which ſhall rendezvous at Kirkwall, in the Orkney iſlands, on or before the twelfth of September, and ſhall continue to be employed in fiſhing among the ſhoals of herrings, as they move, to the eleventh of January, unleſs their loading ſhall be ſooner compleated, ſhall, in caſe all the other regulations and conditions in the ſaid act be complied with, be entitled to the bounties granted therein, as if they had rendezvouſed at Campbell town at the time required by that act. Provided, that no fiſhing veſſel employed by the white-herring fiſhery ſhall be obliged to carry to the latter fiſhing more than one fleet of nets.”

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament of the ſaid twenty-ſixth of King George the Second, For permitting the Exportation of Wool, and Woollen or Bay-Yarn, from any Part of Ireland to any Port in Great Britain, it ſets forth in its preamble, “ That the permitting of wool, and woollen or bay-yarn, to be exported only from certain ports in Ireland to certain ports in England, is not of ſo great and extenſive an advantage to the trade of this kingdom as it would be, if all the ports in Great Britain and Ireland were opened for that purpoſe.” It was therefore enacted, “ That, from the fifth of June, 1753, any wool, or woollen or bay-yarn, wool-fels, ſhortlings, mortlings, wool-flocks, and worſted-yarn, may be exported from any port in Ireland to any port in Great Britain. Provided, that exportations and importations be under the ſame reſtrictions and regulations, and in the ſame manner in all reſpects as wool or woollen-yarn are now by law permitted to be exported from Dublin, and other therein-named ports of Ireland, to the port of Biddeford, and other therein-named ports of England, or any of them.”

In the ſaid twenty-ſixth year, an act of Parliament reduced the number of gentlemen conſtituting the Court of Directors of the South Sea Company, from three governors and thirty directors, to three governors and twenty-one directors, at the ſucceeding general election: and that no more than fifteen of the ſaid twenty-one directors, who at the laſt preceding general election were elected directors, ſhall be choſen again into that office at the following election. This prudent frugality proceeded from the conſideration of their Aſſiento trade being annihilated, as already related.

The French having gained a great ſuperiority in the Turkey trade, a petition was preſented to Parliament for entirely laying open our Turkey trade. On the other ſide, the Turkey Company repreſented, that ſuch an open trade to Turkey would but further decreaſe the Britiſh trade thither.—That the more favourable ſituation of the port of Marſeilles, and other concurring circumſtances, not eaſily to be ſurmounted, had gradually given the French their preſent ſuperiority. The Parliament therefore paſſed an act of this ſame twenty-ſixth year, For enlarging and regulating the Trade into the Levant Seas. The ſubſtance of which ſets forth the patent of King James the Firſt, ſtill in force at this time, dated the fourteenth of December, 1605, as we have recited in its proper place, and alſo that of King Charles the Second. “ And whereas the company's trade into the Levant ſeas has ſince much decreaſed,

A. D. 1753 " the taking of leſſer fines for being made free of this company, and the not reſtraining the " freedom thereof to mere merchants, and to ſuch perſons as reſiding within twenty miles of " London, are free of the ſaid city; and the ſecuring to all perſons free of the company the " liberty of exporting all ſorts of goods and merchandize, not forbidden by law, to any place " within the limits of their charter, from what parts of Great Britain, at what times, in what " quantity, and on board what legal ſhips they ſhall reſpectively think proper: and alſo of " importing, in the like manner, from any place within the limits of the ſaid letters-patent, " raw-ſilk, or any other lawful merchandize purchaſed within the ſaid limits,—are the moſt " probable means of recovering and extending the ſaid trade for the benefit of the nation:— " It was therefore enacted,

" I. That from and after the twenty-fourth of June 1754," (inſtead of the former reſtraints in the ſaid charters of paying twenty-five pounds for all made free under twenty-ſix years of age, and fifty pounds to be paid for all above that age; and that none reſiding within twenty miles of London ſhall be admitted to the freedom of the company, unleſs a freeman of that city; alſo the confining this freedom to mere merchants: as alſo the other reſtraints concerning the times of exportation and importation, &c.) " every ſubject of Great Britain, deſiring " admiſſion into the Turkey Company, ſhall be admitted within thirty days after ſuch requeſt, " and ſhall enjoy all the liberties, privileges, &c. granted by the ſaid letters-patent, paying " or rendering for ſuch admiſſion, for the uſe of the company, twenty pounds, and no more.

" II. From the ſaid twenty-fourth of June 1754, all perſons, free of the company may, " ſeparately or jointly, export any goods or merchandize, not prohibited by law to be ex- " ported) from any place in Great Britain, to any place within the limits of the charter, in " Britiſh or Plantation-built ſhips, navigated according to law, at any time, and to any per- " ſons whomſoever, being free of the ſaid company, or to the ſons or apprentices of freemen, " (ſuch freemen, ſons, or apprentices, being his Majeſty's Chriſtian ſubjects) ſo long as they " ſhall remain under, and ſubmit to the protection and direction of the Britiſh ambaſſador " and conſuls reſpectively for the time being; and may alſo import, in like manner, raw-ſilk, " or other commodities purchaſed within the limits of the ſaid letters-patent, not prohibited " by law to be imported, upon paying the King's duties and cuſtoms, and ſuch impoſitions " as ſhall be aſſeſſed upon all merchandizes, &c. ſo exported, or imported, or upon ſhips " laden therewith, for defraying the neceſſary expences of the company.

" III. The exportation of gold and ſilver, either in foreign coin or bullion, ſhall be ſubject " to the bye-laws of the company.

" IV. The governor, or deputy-governor and company, are empowered, at a general court, " to make ſuch rules, ordinances, or bye-laws, for the good government of the company, as " the majority of the members preſent ſhall think neceſſary: but they ſhall not be valid, un- " leſs confirmed at a ſubſequent general court, to be held at leaſt one month after the former. " If ſeven or more of the freemen ſhall think themſelves aggrieved by any rule, &c. made, or " to be made, they may appeal againſt the ſame to the Commiſſioners for Trade and Planta- " tions, who are required, with all convenient ſpeed, to ſuch an appeal, and to approve or " diſapprove of ſuch manner as ſhall appear to them to be fit and reaſonable: but ſuch rule, " ordinance, or bye-law, ſhall be in force till the appeal ſhall be heard, and it be diſapproved " thereby.

" V. If any appeal ſhall be brought againſt any future rule, ordinance, or bye-law, to be " made, it ſhall be brought within twelve months after ſuch rule, &c. ſhall be made and con- " firmed: and if any appeal ſhall be brought againſt any law, &c. of the company now in

1753 "force, it ſhall be brought within twelve months after the ſaid twenty-fourth of June 1754. "And the appellants ſhall, at the ſame time, give notice, in writing, of ſuch appeal, to the "governor, deputy-governor, or ſecretary of the company."

Thus the trade from Great Britain to the Levant is hereby as much laid open as ſeems conſiſtent with the nature of that trade, all things being duly and impartially conſidered.

Yet, after all, it is difficult to recover a long-declining trade; eſpecially when the advantages in carrying it on are in favour of any other nation. The ſhortneſs of the voyage from Marſeilles to the Levant, the want of but one wind all the way, and the cheapneſs of freight, is the real cauſe of that ſuperiority which the French have gradually gained over us in this trade. Time alone will decide what means can or will be effectual for our regaining that aſcendant we once had above all other Chriſtian nations in the trade to Turkey.

By a Britiſh act of Parliament, For encouraging and improving the Manufactory of Linen in the Highlands of Scotland, it was enacted, "That as the manufacture of coarſe linens hath "been increaſed and improved in Great Britain and Ireland,—and as ſome progreſs has "been made in the manufacture of linen in the Highlands of Scotland, under the direc"tions of the commiſſioners and truſtees for improving fiſheries and manufactures in Scot"land; and as the encouragement of the manufacture of coarſe linens in thoſe parts of "the Highlands, wherein the manufacture of linens either hath not been already eſtabliſhed, "or not advanced to any conſiderable degree of perfection, will be a further means of im"proving and civilizing the Highlands, and the ſucceſs of any proviſion for that purpoſe "will tend to the general good of the whole united kingdom, and alſo of Ireland: it is now "enacted,

"I. That, from the expiration of the term for which bounties, by the herein-recited acts, "are granted on the exportation of Britiſh and Iriſh coarſe linens, the annual ſum of three "thouſand pounds ſhall be paid for nine years to the caſhier of the commiſſioners and truſtees "for improving of fiſheries and manufactures in Scotland;—and ſhall be applied by them for "encouraging and improving the manufacture of linens in the Highlands only.

"II. No part of the ſaid ſum ſhall be applied for any other uſe than for inſtructing and "exciting the inhabitants of that part of Scotland to raiſe, prepare, and ſpin flax and hemp, "to be uſed in the manufacture of coarſe linens, and to weave yarn, there ſpun, into ſuch "linen; and for providing the inhabitants with fit materials and utenſils for thoſe purpoſes; "and for diſtributing rewards and prizes to the growers, preparers, ſpinners, weavers, and "other manufacturers, in reſpect either to the quantity or excellence of the flax or hemp ſo "raiſed or prepared, and of the yarn ſo ſpun, wove, or otherwiſe manufactured; and for ſuch "other-like uſes as the commiſſioners ſhall think proper, for promoting the true intent of "this act. The ſaid annual ſum ſhall be paid in like manner as the annual ſum of two thou"ſand pounds, and the ſurpluſage of the duty on malt made in Scotland, by the thirteenth of "George the Firſt, For encouraging and promoting Fiſheries and other Manufactories and "Improvements in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, or as by letters patent under "the great ſeal in Scotland, are directed to be paid."

In this ſame twenty-ſixth year of King George the Second of Great Britain, an act of Parliament paſſed, For the Purchaſe of the Muſeum or Collection of Sir Hans Sloane, and of the Harleian Collection of Manuſcripts: and for providing one general Repoſitory for the better Reception and more convenient Uſe of the ſaid Collections; and of the famous Cottonian Library, and of the Additions made and to be made thereto.

A. D. 1753 Now, although this ſtatute has no immediate connection with commercial hiſtory, yet its conſequences are like to prove ſo noble, ſo much to the honour of the nation, and poſſeſſing ſuch a tendency to draw foreigners from all the polite parts of Chriſtendom to London, for the viewing of ſo incomparable a collection of rich, ſcarce, and matchleſs curioſities, of both nature and art, that we could not paſs it over in ſilence; more eſpecially as, in its more remote conſequences, it is likely to prove hereafter very beneficial to commerce.

The preamble ſets forth, " That Sir Hans Sloane, Baronet, deceaſed, having through the " courſe of many years, with great labour and expence, gathered together whatever could be " procured either in our own or foreign countries that was rare and curious, by a codicil, " bearing date the twentieth of July 1749, (after having expreſſed his deſire, that his ſaid " collection, in all its branches, might, if poſſible, be preſerved together whole and entire, " in his manor-houſe at Chelſea) did deviſe to certain truſtees his ſaid muſeum; conſiſting of " all his library, drawings, manuſcripts, prints, medals and coins ancient and modern, antiquities, ſeals, cameaos, intaglios, precious ſtones, agates, jaſpers, veſſels of agate and " jaſper, chryſtals, mathematical inſtruments, drawings, and pictures; and all other things " in his ſaid collection, more particularly deſcribed and numbered, with ſhort hiſtories or " accounts of them, in catalogues by him made, containing thirty-eight volumes in folio and " eight in quarto. To have and to hold to them and their ſucceſſors and aſſigns for ever, for " ſuch purpoſes, and with ſuch powers, and under ſuch reſtrictions, as in the ſaid codicil are " expreſſed; willing and deſirous, that the ſaid truſtees ſhould make their humble application " to his Majeſty, or to the Parliament, after his deceaſe, to pay the ſum of twenty thouſand " pounds to his executors, in conſideration of his ſaid muſeum; and alſo to obtain ſuch ſufficient powers, for veſting in the ſaid truſtees the ſaid muſeum in all its branches: and alſo " to obtain a ſufficient fund or proviſion for maintaining and taking care of his ſaid collection " and premiſes. And as the ſaid muſeum is of much greater intrinſic value than the ſaid ſum " of twenty thouſand pounds, and as all arts and ſciences have a connection with each other, " and diſcoveries in natural philoſophy and other branches of ſpeculative knowledge, (for the " advancement and improvement whereof the ſaid collection was intended) do and may, in " many inſtances, give help and ſucceſs to uſeful experiments and inventions: it is enacted,

" I. That twenty thouſand pounds be paid to the executors of Sir Hans Sloane for the ſaid " muſeum.

" II. And whereas by an act of the twelfth and thirteenth of King William III. For the " better ſettling and preſerving the Library kept in the Houſe at Weſtminſter, called Cotton " Houſe, in the Name of the Family of the Cottons, for the Benefit of the Public; reciting, " That Sir Robert Cotton, late of Conington, in the county of Huntington, Baronet, did, " at his own great charge, and by the aſſiſtance of the moſt learned antiquaries of his time, " collect and purchaſe the moſt uſeful manuſcripts, written books, papers, parchments, records, and other memorials, in moſt languages; of great uſe and ſervice for the knowledge " and preſervation of our conſtitution in church and ſtate: and further reciting, that the ſaid " library had been preſerved with the utmoſt care by Sir Thomas Cotton, ſon of the ſaid Sir " Robert, and by Sir John Cotton, (then living) grandſon of the ſaid Sir Robert; and had " been very much augmented by them, and lodged in a very proper place in the ſaid Sir " Robert's ancient manſion-houſe at Weſtminſter, for public uſe and advantage.

" III. That the truſtees thereby appointed ſhall have the ſaid Cotton-houſe and gardens, " &c. and alſo the ſaid library veſted in them and their ſucceſſors for ever, for the purpoſes

" therein

1753 “ therein mentioned, upon truſt, to inſpect, conſult, and take care of the ſaid library;—and ſhall appoint a perſon well read in antiquities and records to have the immediate care thereof.

“ IV. And an act of the fifth of Queen Anne, For the better ſecuring her Majeſty's Purchaſe of the ſaid Cotton Houſe, recites, That the Queen might render ſo great a treaſure of books and manuſcripts uſeful to her own ſubjects and to all learned foreigners, ſhe had purchaſed the ſaid Cotton-houſe and garden, for four thouſand five hundred pounds of Sir John Cotton; and that a convenient room ſhould be built, wherein the ſaid library ſhould be lodged, and ſhould be called by the name of the Cottonian Library; to be managed by the truſtees therein mentioned, for the uſe of the public for ever.

“ Which library, however, for want of a proper repoſitory, did, in the year 1731, ſuffer by a fire, which conſumed the houſe wherein the ſame was then placed; and what remains of the ſaid library ſtill continues in the ſame inconvenient room to which, upon occaſion of that fire, it was removed.

“ And further recites, That Arthur Edwards, Eſquire, being deſirous to preſerve for the public uſe the ſaid library, did, by will, dated in 1738, deviſe ſeven thouſand pounds (after the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Milles) to erect, in a proper ſituation, ſuch a houſe as might be moſt likely to preſerve the ſaid library from future accidents. But if, before that bequeſt ſhould take place, ſuch a building ſhall be erected, then the ſaid ſum ſhall be employed in purchaſing ſuch manuſcripts, books of antiquities, ancient coins, medals, and other curioſities, as might be worthy to increaſe and enlarge the ſaid library. He did alſo thereby give to the ſaid truſtees all his books, in caſes, and alſo his pictures; which have been placed, according to his deſire, in the ſaid library.

“ V. And whereas the Right Honourable the Counteſs Dowager of Oxford and Mortimer, and the Moſt Noble the Ducheſs of Portland, her only daughter, have expreſſed their approbation of a propoſal for the purchaſe of the valuable collection of manuſcripts collected by the late Earl of Oxford, and by his father, in conſideration of ten thouſand pounds, on condition that the ſame ſhall be kept together in a proper repoſitory, as an addition to the Cottonian Library, and to be called by the name of the Harleian Collection of Manuſcripts: it is now enacted, that ten thouſand pounds ſhall be paid for them to the ſaid Counteſs's truſtees. The ſaid collection of manuſcripts to be placed and continued in the ſame repoſitory in which the Cottonian Library is herein-after to be placed. The Archbiſhop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, (or Lord Keeper) the Lord Treaſurer, (or firſt Commiſſioner of the Treaſury) the Lord Preſident of the Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the Lord High Admiral, (or firſt Commiſſioner of the Admiralty) the Lord Steward and Lord Chamberlain of his Majeſty's Houſhold, the Biſhop of London, each of the principal Secretaries of State, being a Peer or Lord of Parliament, the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, each of the principal Secretaries of State, not being a Peer or Lord of Parliament, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lord Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench, the Maſter of the Rolls, the Lord Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas, his Majeſty's Attorney-general and Solicitor-general, the Preſident of the Royal Society, the Preſident of the Royal College of Phyſicians; together with Charles Lord Cadogan, and Hans Stanley, Eſquire; with Samuel Boroughs and Thomas Hart, Eſquires, two of the preſent truſtees of the Cottonian Library; together alſo with the Moſt Noble William Duke of Portland, and the Right Honourable Edward Earl of Oxford and Mortimer; ſhall be truſtees for putting this act into execution: and they, or the major part of them, in a general meeting aſſembled, (whereof the Archbiſhop

A. D. 1753 " of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor (or Lord Keeper) and the Speaker of the Houſe of " Commons, ſhall be three) ſhall nominate fifteen other perſons to be aſſociates to them, and " who ſhall continue truſtees for life: and, on the death of any ſuch truſtee, the reſt ſhall, in " like manner, elect another in his place, and ſo *toties quoties*.

Next follow ſeveral clauſes, for the ſucceſſion to Lord Cadogan, and to Hans Stanley, Eſquire, or to Samuel Boroughs and Thomas Hart, Eſquires: and to the Duke of Portland " and Earl of Oxford. As the major part of all the truſtees, the Lord Archbiſhop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, cannot all be " preſent at every general meeting for the election of truſtees, this clauſe was altered by an " act of the ſucceeding ſeſſion, For making perpetual ſeveral Laws, &c. " So as that any " two of the firſt named three, and a majority of a general meeting of the other truſtees, " whereof not leſs than ſeven to be preſent, ſhall be deemed valid and effectual."

" VI. One general repoſitory ſhall be provided in ſuch convenient place within the cities of " of London or Weſtminſter, or their ſuburbs, as the truſtees ſhall direct, for the reception " of Sloane's Muſeum, the Cottonian Library, and the additions to be made thereto by " virtue of the will of the ſaid Arthur Edwards, Eſquire;) and alſo of the Harleian Manuſcripts; and of ſuch other additions to the Cottonian Library as ſhall be made; and of ſuch " other collections and libraries, as, with the approbation of the truſtees for this act, ſhall be " admitted into the ſaid general repoſitory. And the muſeum of Sir Hans Sloane in all its " branches, ſhall therein be kept together and entire, with proper marks of diſtinction.— " Alſo the Harleian Collection of Manuſcripts ſhall be kept together in the general repoſitory, " as an addition to the Cottonian Library.

" VII. The truſtees ſhall be one body politic and corporate, and ſhall have ſucceſſion for " ever, by the name of The Truſtees of the Britiſh Muſeum; with a common ſeal; and may " ſue and be ſued, make bye-laws, &c. with power to purchaſe and enjoy, for the purpoſes of " this act, as well goods and chattels, as lands, tenements, and hereditaments, not exceeding " five hundred pounds yearly: they may at a general meeting, from time to time, make " ſtatutes and rules for the cuſtody, preſervation, and inſpection, of the before-named ſeveral " collections;—may appoint the ſalaries of officers, and may diſplace ſuch at pleaſure.—And " the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, Chancellor, and Speaker, or any two of them, ſhall recommend to his Majeſty two fit perſons, for the King to name one of them to be principal " librarian. And the reſt of the officers and ſervants ſhall be appointed by thoſe three, or " any two of them; who are hereby impowered, in caſe of the ſickneſs or other neceſſary " abſence of thoſe officers, to appoint deputies to ſupply their places.

" VIII. Free acceſs to the ſaid general repoſitory ſhall be given by the truſtees to all " ſtudious and curious perſons, at ſuch times, in ſuch manner, and under ſuch regulations, " for inſpecting and conſulting the ſame, as by the truſtees, at a general meeting, ſhall be " limited for that purpoſe.

" IX. A lottery for three hundred thouſand pounds, in tickets of three pounds each, is " hereby appointed for the purpoſes aforeſaid; and twice fifty thouſand tickets, at three " pounds each, were to be iſſued for that end; the firſt fifty thouſand tickets to determine " the fate of the ſecond fifty thouſand tickets:" but what is moſt memorable in this lottery was, that only two hundred thouſand pounds was paid back to the adventurers in prizes, and the blanks utterly ſunk; ſo that one hundred thouſand pounds remained to this general repoſitory, 1753 ſitory, out of which only the expence of the lottery was to be deducted: ſo diſadvantageous a lottery never having before been countenanced by authority.

"Finally, The remaining profits ariſing from that lottery were to pay the before-named "twenty thouſand pounds to Sir Hans Sloane's executors, and ten thouſand pounds to the "Counteſs of Oxford; alſo the expence of purchaſing a general repoſitory for receiving his "muſeum from Sir Hans Sloane's manor-houſe at Chelſea; alſo for receiving the manuſcripts "of the late Earl of Oxford; and for removing thereto the Cottonian Library; and alſo for "ſalaries to officers and ſervants; as alſo for the neceſſary furniture of the ſaid general repoſitory, and of ſuch cabinets, book-caſes, and other neceſſaries and embelliſhments as the "condition of the ſeveral collections ſhall require."

We ſhall only further add, that ſince the paſſing of this act, the truſtees have purchaſed and fitted up the elegant palace of the late Duke of Montagu, for the reception of all the ſaid three different ſpecies of collections. An houſe worthy to be the general repoſitory of the richeſt and nobleſt collection in the univerſe. A collection ſo rich, ſo vaſt, and ſo amazing, as literally to require days inſtead of hours, for the mere inſpection of it.

An act of Parliament paſſed, of this ſame ſeſſion and twenty-ſixth of King George the Second, to render more effectual an act of the twelfth of Queen Anne, For providing a public Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea.

With regard to the making experiments of propoſals to be made for diſcovering the ſaid longitude; and to enlarge the number of commiſſioners for putting in execution the ſaid act. This ſtatute, after reciting the former act, now enacts, "That whereas a competent number of "the commiſſioners for the longitude have heard and received ſeveral propoſals, at different "times, for that diſcovery, and were ſo far ſatisfied of the probabilities of ſuch diſcoveries, "that they thought it proper to make experiments thereof, and certified the ſame to the commiſſioners of the navy, with the name of Mr. John Harriſon, author of the ſaid propoſals, "who thereupon received one thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds, as part of two thouſand pounds allotted by the former act; which the commiſſioners thought neceſſary for "making the ſaid experiments. And whereas a like competent number of commiſſioners for "the longitude did appoint Mr. William Whiſton to ſurvey and determine the longitude and "latitude of the chief ports and headlands on the coaſts of Great Britain and Ireland, and the "iſlands and plantations thereunto belonging, for which purpoſe five hundred pounds more "(part of the ſaid two thouſand pounds) was applied; ſo that the commiſſioners have now "only two hundred and fifty pounds remaining of the ſaid two thouſand pounds. And as, "from the experiments already made, there is great reaſon to expect, that by continuing to "encourage ingenious perſons to make further improvements, ſuch diſcoveries may at length "be produced as will effectually anſwer the end, and thereby contribute very much to the "advantage of the trade and honour of this kingdom. It is therefore hereby enacted, that "any five of the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall have full power to hear and receive propoſals for "diſcovering the ſaid longitude; and where they ſhall be ſo far ſatisfied of the probability of "any ſuch propoſal or diſcovery, as to think it proper to make experiment thereof, they ſhall "certify the ſame, together with the names of the authors, to the commiſſioners of the navy, "who ſhall thereupon make out bills for ſuch ſums, not exceeding two thouſand pounds over "and above the ſaid two hundred and fifty pounds, as the ſaid commiſſioners for the longitude ſhall think neceſſary for making ſuch experiments. The Governor of Greenwich "Hoſpital, the Judge of the Admiralty Court, the Secretaries of the Treaſury, the Secretary

A. D. 1753 “ of the Admiralty Board, and the Comptroller of the Navy, ſhall be joint commiſſioners “ with thoſe appointed by the ſaid act of the twelfth of Queen Anne, for diſcovering the “ longitude.”

Another ſtatute of this ſame ſeſſion of Parliament paſſed, though not without much oppoſition, To permit Perſons profeſſing the Jewiſh Religion to be naturalized by Parliament.

By an act of the ſeventh of King James II. and another of the thirteenth of King George II. all ſuch as were to be naturalized were firſt to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and to take the legal oaths to the King; “ whereby,” ſays the preamble to this ſtatute, “ many perſons of conſiderable ſubſtance, profeſſing the Jewiſh religion, are prevented from “ being ſo naturalized.” It was now therefore enacted, “ That Jews may, upon application, “ be naturalized by Parliament, without receiving the Sacrament, provided they, and all “ others hereafter to be naturalized, ſhall be abſolutely ſubject to the diſabilities expreſſed in “ an act of the firſt of King George I. recited in its place. And alſo who ſhall have previouſly “ inhabited for three years in his Majeſty's dominions, without being abſent above three “ months at any one time.

“ Laſtly, Hereafter, all Jews are hereby diſabled from purchaſing or inheriting any advowſon, or right of patronage, or preſentation, or other right to any benefice, prebend, or “ other eccleſiaſtical living or promotion, ſchool, hoſpital, or donation.”

As no ill uſe could well be made of this new privilege to the Jews; and as it might gradually have drawn hither many perſons of great ſubſtance to ſettle with their wealth among us, and might conſequently further promote the national commerce, there were many people who could not then conceive that it ſhould reaſonably have given any juſt offence to moderate and rational Chriſtians.

Neverthelеſs, this act was repealed in the following ſeſſions of Parliament; for which repeal the grounds aſſigned were, “ That occaſion had been taken, from the ſaid firſt-named “ law, to raiſe diſcontents, and to diſquiet the minds of many of his Majeſty's ſubjects: “ wherefore it was now repealed to all intents and purpoſes;” being the very firſt pnblic act of the ſaid ſeſſion.

The following account of the trade of his Majeſty's American province of South Carolina, was tranſmitted in this ſame year 1753, and is well worth recording, viz.

Eight months exportations from, and importations to, Charleſtown, viz. from the twelfth of November 1752, to the twelfth of July 1753.

Exported—	Rice	31,418	barrels.
	Pitch	13,814	
	Tar	6,221	
	Turpentine	3,808	
	Beef	263	
	Pork	234	
	Deer ſkins	303	hogſheads.
	Lumber	591,412	feet.
	Shingles	581,020	pieces.
	Caſk ſtaves	78,932	
Imported—	Rum	921	hogſheads.
	Ditto	30	tierces.
	Ditto	93	barrels.

1753	Imported—Sugar	113 hogſheads.
	Ditto	5 tierces.
	Ditto	160 barrels.
	Ditto	65 baſkets.
	Indian corn	63,315 buſhels.
	Negroes	511
	Flour	3,425 barrels.
	Salt	9,463 buſhels.
	Madeira wine	230 hogſheads.
	Ditto	44 barrels.

N. B. They export from Carolina quantities of fine oranges and lemons, of various kinds, to the more northern plantations on the continent; and this would be a great branch of their trade, if thoſe fine fruits could keep acroſs the ocean to Great Britain; but it ſeems, after frequent trials, they cannot generally effect it.

There are various kinds of drugs produced in, and exported from Carolina, though not mentioned or particularized in this ſummary account; which, however, may be ſufficient to give a tolerable idea of the increaſing trade of that fine province.

This account, however, differs ſo widely from a whole year's exportations in this ſame year 1753, in our introduction, as poſſibly may be difficult to be accounted for, till new lights break forth. At preſent, we are inclined to think, that account comprehends at leaſt more than one year's exportation of rice, Indian corn, &c.

A paragraph from the Dublin newſpapers, in November in this year 1753, obſerves, "That by a late accurate ſurvey and computation, there have been found to have been no "leſs than four thouſand new houſes erected, *i. e.* on new foundations, in that city and "ſuburbs, ſince the year 1711, moſtly to the ſouth and weſt of the town. In England," adds that news writer, "Liverpool, Sheffield, Mancheſter, Leeds, and Birmingham, have in-"creaſed more in proportion, in the ſaid forty-two years." He might have added Briſtol, alſo greatly increaſed, as alſo Glaſgow, and other places. This increaſe, however, of Dublin, is indeed very great; and if, as it is generally remarked, there are eight perſons, one with another, in every houſe in Dublin, then this increaſe amounts to thirty-two thouſand perſons in the ſaid forty-two years time.

The increaſe of Mancheſter, Sheffield, Birmingham, Froome, Leeds, Briſtol, Liverpool, Glaſgow, &c. has proceeded principally from our general increaſe in manufactures and foreign commerce; Dublin partly by that, and alſo by the great reſort to it, as being the ſeat of government, and by the increaſe of luxury in an enormous degree. The other places, by their woollen, linen, and iron, &c. manufactures; and from the vaſt increaſe of the foreign trade and navigation of Briſtol, Liverpool, Hull, Glaſgow, &c.

In the compaſs of this ſame year 1753, there entered the port of Marſeilles one thouſand two hundred and ſixty-four ſhips.

And into the port of Cadiz one thouſand one hundred ſhips.

1754 The year 1754 gave birth to one of the nobleſt deſigns for the improvement of the general commerce of Great Britain which could poſſibly have been deviſed; viz. the voluntary Society, for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; its ſole object being purely and moſt diſintereſtedly the improvement of ingenious and commercial arts, for the exciting both of emulation and induſtry, by honourable and pecuniary rewards. It was firſt ſet on

A. D. 1754 foot by means of the late Lord Folkſtone, Lord Romney, the late reverend and excellent Doctor Stephen Hales, and a few other private gentlemen; on the ſuggeſtion of a Mr. Shipley, an ingenious mechanic, who poſſeſſed ſentiments of public good very ſuperior to his ſituation in life: and as there was already two ſocieties of a ſimilar kind in Scotland and Ireland, this ſociety confined its premiums ſolely to that part of Great Britain called England, and to our own colonies, plantations and ſettlements in America, Africa, and Aſia.

This noble ſociety immediately began to advertiſe premiums for the encouragement of young people of both ſexes in the arts of drawing and deſigning; for the encouragement alſo of our planters in America, for raiſing all the rich and precious productions of the countries of Spaniſh and Portugueſe America, as well as of Aſia and Africa. Its utility ſuddenly began to be ſo well perceived, that many noblemen and eminent gentlemen, merchants, traders, &c. became members and ſubſcribers to it, even to the number of conſiderably above one thouſand perſons. Their preſent conſtitution conſiſts of one preſident, eight vice-preſidents, a ſecretary, and a regiſter, annually elected. Every perſon deſiring to be a member, muſt be propoſed by one or more members at one meeting, who muſt give in his name, &c. ſigned by himſelf, and muſt be balloted for at a ſucceeding meeting; and if two-thirds of the ſaid meeting be for admitting him, he ſhall be deemed a perpetual member, on payment of twenty guineas, or elſe a ſubſcribing member, on payment of any yearly ſum not leſs than two guineas: yet all noblemen, and alſo ſome gentlemen, ſubſcribe five guineas each, and others four, or three guineas yearly. They have now no ſingle treaſurer, all their money being lodged at the Bank of England, to be drawn out as wanted.

All queſtions are determined either by holding up of hands, or by ballot, if inſiſted on.

They generally invite all mankind to propoſe ſubjects for their encouragement, and when approved of by a committee, and confirmed by a general meeting, the matters propoſed, with their premiums, are annually publiſhed in the newſpapers, &c. and all poſſible impartiality in the diſtribution of premiums is carefully obviated, by concealing the claimants names, and appointing committees for the ſtrict examination of their merits, and occaſionally conſulting the moſt ſkilful artiſts.

Their meetings are well attended, a laudable zeal being by all exerted for the improvement of the fine arts, as well as of manufactures and commerce. From ſuch truly noble and diſintereſted intentions, and ſuch an extenſive plan for the advancement of the wealth, power, and glory of their country, what may not reaſonably be hoped for?—May they increaſe more and more, both in the number of their members, and in their revenue; in which all lovers of their country will ſurely join their ardent wiſhes.

	Tons.
A certain mercantile author, under the year 1754, juſtly enough remarks the uncertainty of exactly computing the number of the trading ſhipping of England: but when he conjectures they may be about two thouſand ſhips in foreign trade, amounting in tonnage to about — — —	170,000
And about the ſame number of coaſting veſſels, which may contain in tonnage about — — — — —	150,000
Total tonnage, by his account, —	320,000

He is ſurely ſhort of the mark in both reſpects, more eſpecially in the coaſting tonnage, conſidering the great number of colliers ſhips, large and ſmall.

1754 When I was at Briſtol in the year 1743, I took ſome pains in enquiring at their cuſtom-houſe concerning their foreign and coaſting trades; and the general anſwer was, that Briſtol had upwards of four hundred ſhips, greater and leſſer, employed in foreign trade, including their trade to Ireland; but the number of coaſters they could not aſcertain, but only ſaid, that they were undoubtedly very many.

Since that time, it is ſaid, that Liverpool has gained ground, in ſome trades, of Briſtol, and may probably have about or near three hundred ſhips in foreign trade, beſide their coaſters. Now, if the number of ſhips trading beyond ſea, from all the other ports of Great Britain, or even of England alone, were exactly known, the whole may very probably amount to conſiderably (perhaps one half) more than two thouſand ſhips trading beyond ſea; more eſpecially if the account given of London's ſhipping (which Maitland, in his Survey of London, ſays was taken from the general regiſter at the Cuſtom-houſe, for the year 1732, and therefore an authentic one) be genuine.

Moreover, as he thinks London poſſeſſes one-fourth part of the foreign trade of the whole nation, becauſe ſhe pays three-twelfths of all the cuſtoms; then, if, as by his ſaid account of London's ſhipping, they amounted to one thouſand four hundred and ſeventeen ſhips, navigated by twenty-one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſeven ſeamen; and that in the year 1728, there arrived in the port of London, from all parts beyond ſea, one thouſand eight hundred and thirty-nine Britiſh ſhips, two hundred and thirteen foreign ſhips, and ſix thouſand eight hundred and thirty-ſeven coaſters, which laſt muſt generally imply they were Britiſh, ſurely the firſt-named computation muſt be far ſhort of the tonnage, foreign and coaſting, of the whole kingdom, which ſome conjecture to amount to at leaſt five hundred thouſand tons. The number, however, of London's ſhipping, has very conſiderably increaſed ſince the year 1732.

The bold and long projected ſcheme of France, for hemming in our American continental colonies between theirs and the ocean, by erecting a chain of forts all along the weſt ſide of our ſaid colonies, even down to the Bay of Mexico, began, in this year 1754, to ſhew itſelf more openly, though in a time of profound peace.

Immediately after the laſt peace of Aix la Chapelle they had inſtructed and directed their Indians and Canadians to diſtreſs and plunder our Indian traders, in the country about the great and far extended river Ohio, though properly ſubject to the Britiſh crown, as being a conqueſt of the five Iroquois nations, allowed by France in the treaty of Utrecht to be under the Britiſh dominion.

It was reaſon enough, for their purpoſe, that the getting poſſeſſion of the river Ohio ſeemed to them abſolutely requiſite for their above-named great purpoſe of connecting Canada with Louiſiana, or the Miſſiſippi country. For that end, they, in this ſame year, ſeized on and deſtroyed our fort in that country, after defeating Colonel Waſhington; whereupon they erected another in its ſtead, which they named Fort Du Queſne. This was ſuch an unparalleled breach of peace and friendſhip, as moſt neceſſarily brought on a war between Great Britain and France, both in Europe and America, which the latter has ſince had great reaſon to repent of.

We had, in the ſame year 1754, in the public news from France, an extraordinary inſtance of the immenſe increaſe of their Eaſt India commerce, viz. from Port L'Orient, the ſtation of their Eaſt India ſhipping, and of all their warehouſes and magazines, viz. That the ſale of the cargoes of fifteen French Eaſt India ſhips then amounted to about thirty-ſix millions of livres, or about one million and an half ſterling money. And, upon this occaſion it was re-

A. D. 1754 marked, that from the year 1664, when this company was firſt eſtabliſhed, to the year 1725, the courſe of exchange between France and the other ſtates of Europe, was always, or moſt generally, to the diſadvantage of France, becauſe thoſe countries ſupplied her with more merchandize than they took off from her: but that, ever ſince the year 1726, when the French Eaſt India Company, by their great importations from India, began firſt to counterbalance the Engliſh and Dutch in that trade, the courſe of exchange has been always or moſtly in favour of France.

1755 By a Britiſh act of Parliament, of the twenty-eighth of King George II. For further explaining, amending, &c. an Act of the Twenty-third Year of that King, for the encouragement of the Britiſh White Herring Fiſhery, it was enacted, "That the ſeveral allowances of "three pounds per cent. on all the principal money employed by the Corporation of the Free "Britiſh Fiſhery, and alſo the bounty of thirty ſhillings per ton on their ſhipping, be further "continued for three years, from the expiration of the former term: with ſome other leſſer "privileges now enacted,—ſuch as liberty to let to hire any of their buſſes to others, ſo as "they be employed in the ſaid fiſheries only; with ſome other benefits relating to the tonnage "bounty, and to their fiſhing at other ſtations than thoſe directed by former acts, &c."

In this ſame year 1755, (twenty-eighth of George II.) by an act of the Britiſh Parliament, For continuing, amending, and explaining the ſeveral Acts made for the further Encouragement of the Whale Fiſhery, &c. it is, *inter alia*, enacted,

"I. That every ſhip employed in that fiſhery ſhall have on board an apprentice, indentured for three years at leaſt, for every fifty tons burthen; who ſhall be accounted as one of "the number of men who by law ought to be on board ſuch ſhip.

"II. That no ſhip employed in the ſaid fiſhery, above the burthen of four hundred "tons, ſhall be entitled to a larger bounty than a ſhip of four hundred tons would be entitled to.

"III. Ships under two hundred tons burthen ſhall hereafter be entitled to the bounty of "forty ſhillings per ton, as well as thoſe of two hundred tons and upwards, are entitled to "by former ſtatutes."

On the firſt of November, in this year 1755, that great metropolis and mercantile city of Liſbon began to be almoſt utterly overturned and deſtroyed by repeated ſhocks of earthquakes for ſeveral ſucceeding days: whereupon the King and Parliament of Great Britain, to teſtify their great compaſſion for the ſufferers, and in general their great regard for the King of Portugal and his ſubjects, ſpeedily ſent thither one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling, for the relief of the diſtreſſed ſurviving inhabitants of Liſbon, in money and proviſions.

During the courſe of the year 1755, we were adviſed from Port L'Orient, that no fewer than twenty-five French Eaſt India Company's ſhips had ſailed from thence for India and China; which ſhews the vaſt increaſe of the French Eaſt Indian commerce in a few years ſpace.

The Engliſh Eaſt India Company's diſputes with the French Company in India, which had brought on the loſs of Fort St. George, our principal ſettlement there, though afterward reſtored by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, having occaſioned a large debt on that company in India, their neceſſary payments alſo of many ſubſidies to the nabobs and other great officers in India, for keeping them in our company's intereſt, together likewiſe with the military force they were at this time obliged to keep up in India, having obliged the company, toward the cloſe of the year 1755, to take the reſolution of reducing the dividend on their transferable

1755 able capital ſtock, from eight to ſix per cent. from and after Chriſtmas 1755, even although no fewer than twenty one of their ſhips had returned ſafe from India within the compaſs of the year 1755; their ſaid firſt reduced half year's dividend of three per cent. was paid at Midſummer 1756, even although the cargoes of all the ſaid returned ſhips were valued at two millions and upwards.

1756 On Tueſday the eighteenth of May 1756, war was declared by the King of Great Britain againſt France; the depredations and violences of the latter in America, rendering that meaſure abſolutely neceſſary, in vindication of the honour of the Britiſh crown and nation, and for the ſafety and protection of the Britiſh American colonies.

On the twenty-ninth of June, in the ſame year, Fort St. Philip, the only defenſible place in the iſland of Minorca, ſurrendered to the French.

In this ſame year 1756, the twenty-ninth of King George the Second, ſeveral good laws were made by the Britiſh legiſlature, not only for the better ſupporting of the war againſt France, but for the encouragement and regulation of the Britiſh commerce and navigation in general, viz.

“ I. Such as, the fifth public act,—to enable foreigners to ſerve as military officers in America.

“ II. The eleventh,—for ſupplying of mariners on board ſhips of war and merchant-ſhips.

“ III. The fifteenth,—for granting bounties on Britiſh and Iriſh linens exported.

“ IV. The twenty-third,—for encouraging of fiſheries in Scotland.

“ V. The twenty-ſixth,—for ſecuring and encouraging the trade of his Majeſty's ſugar colonies in America.

“ VI. The thirty-third,—for regulating workmens wages, &c. employed in the woollen manufacture.

“ VII. The thirty-fourth,—for the encouragement of ſeamen, and the more ſpeedy manning of the royal navy.”

All which, though of a public nature, are not ſo important as to be even barely abridged in ſo general a work as ours.

1757 By an authentic account of the amount of the linen cloth, ſtamped for ſale in Scotland, from the firſt of November 1756 to the firſt of November 1757, it amounts to no fewer than nine million ſeven hundred and ſixty-four thouſand four hundred and eight yards and ſeven eighths, valued at four hundred and one thouſand five hundred and eleven pounds nine ſhillings and a halfpenny ſterling money: and in the ſaid year 1757, the ſaid linen manufacture in Scotland had been increaſed one million two hundred and ſeventeen thouſand two hundred and fifty-five one-quarter yards, valued at thirty-three thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine pounds eighteen ſhillings and three farthings more than in the preceding year.

The year 1757 proved to be an extremely ſcarce year all over Europe, not only for wheat-corn, but for various other kinds of proviſions, whereby the poor of Great Britain ſuffered not a little for their daily ſuſtenance, and even perſons of middling circumſtances were put to a conſiderable additional expence; many graziers, butchers, bakers, fiſhmongers, &c. taking, we fear, too much advantage of the general dearth.

And whereas the price of wheat in England has, throughout this work, been made one nearly adequate rule (at leaſt more than that of any one other ſingle article of food or proviſions whatever) from the Norman conqueſt downward, of judging of the dearneſs or cheapneſs

A. D. 1757 neſs of living in general, as bread and flour are eſſentially neceſſary to every human creature from the higheſt to the loweſt; and as three ſhillings and ſix pence per buſhel, or one pound eight ſhillings per quarter, is deemed a low or cheap price for wheat; and that five ſhillings per buſhel, or forty ſhillings per quarter, has uſually been deemed the medium or middling price, we ſhall here exhibit the rates of wheat at London, in every month of the ſaid year of dearth 1757, as ſold at the Corn Exchange in Mark Lane, viz.

			£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
In January 1757,	per quarter, wheat,	from	2	9	0	to	2	10	0
February,		from	2	7	0	to	2	11	0
March,		from	2	6	0	to	2	14	0
April,	- - -						3	4	0
May,	- - -						3	4	0
June,		from	3	7	0	to	3	12	0
July,	- - - -						2	18	0
Auguſt,	- - - -						1	14	0
September,	- - -						2	8	0
October,	- - -						2	6	6
November,	- - -						2	2	0
December,	- - -						2	2	0

For the remedying of that ſore evil, many expedients were debated, both within and without doors; which at length produced the following ſtatutes, of the ſaid thirtieth year of King George II. viz.

" An act to prohibit, for a time to be limited, the exportation of corn, malt, meal, flour, " bread, biſcuit, and ſtarch.

" II. An act to diſcontinue, for a limited time, the duties upon corn and flour imported, " &c.—

" III. An act to prohibit the exportation of corn, grain, meal, malt, flour, beef, pork, " bacon, &c. from America, unleſs to Great Britain or Ireland; and to permit the importa- " tion thereof into Great Britain and Ireland in neutral ſhips, &c.—

" IV. An act for continuing the laſt-named act, for diſcontinuing the duties upon corn " and flour imported, &c.—

" V. Alſo an act for continuing an act of this ſame ſeſſion, to prohibit, for a limited time, " the making of low wines and ſpirits from wheat, barley, malt, &c. or from any meal " or flour."

1758 By a ſtatute of the next ſeſſion of Parliament, of the thirty-firſt of King George II. the before-named ſtatutes for remedying the dearth of corn and other proviſions, are further prolonged to the twenty-fourth of December, 1758.

And by another ſtatute of the ſaid thirty-firſt year of King George II. the permitting the importation of ſalted beef, pork, and butter, into Great Britain from Ireland, at the time of ſo great a dearth of all kinds of proviſions, was judged at that time to be of great advantage to both kingdoms; and therefore the ſame was hereby ſo permitted to be imported for ſix months from Midſummer 1758, free from the payment of all ſubſidies, cuſtoms, &c. excepting one

A. D.

1758 ſhilling and three pence per hundred weight for ſuch beef and pork imported, and four pence per hundred weight on ſalted butter, for the benefit of the ſalt duty;—altered next ſeſſion to three ſhillings and four pence per barrel for ſalted beef, pork, or butter; and one ſhilling and three pence per hundred weight for dried beef tongues, or dried hog's-meat; in order to be adequate to the duty payable for ſuch quantity of ſalt as is requiſite to be uſed in curing and ſalting thereof.

In the ſame ſeſſion of Parliament was paſſed, An Act for the due making of Bread; and to regulate the Price and Aſſize thereof: and to puniſh Perſons who ſhall adulterate Meal, Flour, or Bread. This act was principally occaſioned by accounts daily publiſhed of certain bakers mixing lime, alum, and other unwholſome ingredients, in that time of ſcarcity, in their bread. The legiſlature therefore took that matter into their ſerious conſideration, and took this opportunity likewiſe of examining an act of the fifty-firſt of King Henry III. intitled, *Aſſiza Panis et Cerivifiæ*, *i. e.* The Aſſize of Bread and Ale, and another act of the eighth year of Queen Anne, To regulate the Price and Aſſize of Bread; whereby ſo much of the before-named act as related to the aſſize of bread was repealed. Which act of Queen Anne, with ſeveral alterations and amendments made thereto by ſome ſubſequent acts, was continued until the twenty-fourth of June 1757, and to the end of the then next ſeſſion of Parliament. This preſent ſtatute, therefore, reduced into one act all the ſeveral laws in force, relating to the due making, and the prices and aſſize of bread, all preceding ſtatutes being hereby repealed: and new tables for the aſſize and prices of the various kinds of bread were therein promulgated, as alſo what relates to the prices of the three ſorts of wheat, wheaten, and houſhold flour, of rye and rye-meal; of barley and barley-meal; of oats and oat-meal; of white peas and white peas-flour or meal; and of beans and bean-flour.

Several clauſes were alſo added for preventing frauds in the prices of corn, flour, and meal; and for puniſhing of any bakers who ſhall mix different ſorts of flour or meal in their bread, or ſhall put into their bread any unwholſome ingredients. Alſo meal or grain of different kinds, not to be ſold as if of one kind only: and many other uſeful regulations for the ſaid purpoſes, which are not neceſſary to be enlarged on in this place.

The harbour of Dover ſtill wanting additional improvements, which, it is too much to be apprehended it will ever want, notwithſtanding ſeveral former ſtatutes for that end, and particularly that of the eleventh and twelfth of King William III. whereby ſeveral duties were laid on coals, and on ſhips and veſſels, for raiſing a ſum, not exceeding thirty thouſand one hundred pounds. As alſo by an act of the ſecond of Queen Anne, and by the ſecond and fourth of King George I. &c. And that the truſtees for Dover harbour have borrowed three thouſand pounds more on the duties in thoſe acts ſpecified, which is not as yet repaid.—And as it would tend greatly to the preſervation of his Majeſty's ſhips of war, and to the protection and encouragement of trade, that the ſaid harbour ſhould be effectually repaired; but the money ariſing by the rates and duties, granted for that end, not being ſufficient, it was therefore now enacted, by the thirty-firſt of King George the Second, "That from and after the expiration of the former term, one moiety of the former rates and duties ſhall be continued for "the term of twenty-one years longer, applicable to the ſupport of Dover Harbour, and for "diſcharging the before-named debt of three thouſand pounds, &c." It is much to be wiſhed, though little to be expected, that this harbour, ſo happy in point of ſituation, may at length anſwer the great expence beſtowed on it.

A. D. 1758 Several other uſeful ſtatutes were made in the ſame thirty-firſt year of King George II. and the ſame ſeſſion of Parliament; as,

I. For the Benefit and Encouragement of Seamen employed in the Royal Navy, and for eſtabliſhing a regular Method for the punctual, frequent, and certain Payment of their Wages, and for enabling them more eaſily and readily to remit the ſame for the ſupport of their Wives and Families; and for preventing of Frauds and Abuſes attending ſuch payments.—Tenth public ſtatute of this ſeſſion.

II. To permit the Importation of ſalted Beef, Pork, and Butter, from Ireland, for a limited Time.—(Proviſions ſtill continuing dear in England.)—The twenty-eighth public ſtatute.

III. An Act for the due making of Bread, and to regulate the Price and Aſſize thereof; and to puniſh Perſons who ſhall adulterate Meal, Flour, or Bread.—The twenty-ninth public act.

IV. An Act for applying a Sum of Money towards carrying on the Works for fortifying and ſecuring the Harbour of Milford, in the County of Pembroke: the preamble whereof ſets forth, "That this harbour is more conveniently ſituated for the fitting out of fleets, and ſta-" tioning of cruizers, than any other harbour in this kingdom; and from the many great " and local advantages attending it, would, if properly fortified and ſecured, greatly tend to " facilitate the naval operations of this kingdom, hitherto too frequently retarded, and ſome-" times entirely fruſtrated, from the want of ſuch a port of equipment.—Ten thouſand pounds " was therefore to be iſſued for making a beginning to the ſaid work, and for purchaſing ne-" ceſſary lands, &c. for that end;" much to the credit of our own age, after having ſo long and often talked of it in this and the preceding century.

Milford is allowed to poſſeſs the very beſt haven in Great Britain; ſince, according to thoſe who have ſurveyed it, one thouſand ſail of ſhips may ſafely ride in it, at a convenient diſtance from each other: it has thirteen roads, ſixteen creeks, and five bays, all known by their reſpective names; its ſituation is moſt happy, clear of the ſo often experienced inconveniencies of both Portſmouth and Plymouth, by being without the Channel; and is, for that reaſon alone of ſuch advantage to us, as will overbalance any expence which its fortifying, &c. may occaſion, more eſpecially in time of war with the more ſouthern nations of Europe.—Thirty ſeventh public act.

V. An Act for veſting certain Meſſuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments; for the better ſecuring his Majeſty's Docks, Ships, and Stores at Portſmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth; and for the better fortifying the Town of Portſmouth, and the Citadel of Plymouth; in Truſtees, for certain Uſes; and for other Purpoſes therein mentioned.—Thirty-eighth public act.

By a ſtatute of the year following, compenſation was to be made to the proprietors of ſuch lands as were purchaſed for the purpoſes of the laſt-named act: which five very well-judged ſtatutes are unneceſſary to be enlarged on in this work.

About this time an ingenious piece was publiſhed at Paris, entitled, *Les Interets de la France mal entendus*; i. e. *The true Intereſt of France not rightly underſtood*, principally deſigned for promoting the huſbandry and agriculture of that kingdom, alleged, very truly by the author, to have been too much neglected, both in the reign of Louis XV. and alſo by his predeceſſor, Louis XIV. for the ſake of manufactures and of military glory, whilſt France remained dependent on England for their very bread or corn

1758 “This author ſuppoſes, for argument's ſake, the value of the riches of France to be one thouſand millions of livres, which would produce fifty millions of livres yearly intereſt; which being divided among ſeventeen millions of people,” the number of people he ſuppoſes to be at this time in France, “it would ſupply fifty-nine ſols, or two livres nineteen ſols, towards the ſubſiſtence of each individual perſon. He alſo ſuppoſes the whole expence of every one of the ſaid ſeventeen millions, on an average, to be one hundred and ſixty livres yearly; which, at ten-pence halfpenny ſterling per livre, is, in Engliſh money, ſeven pounds.” (Whether he borrowed this computation from our Engliſh political writers or not, it exactly correſponds with them in this reſpect.) “Upon this ſuppoſition, France, for her full ſubſiſtence, ſhould receive from its agriculture, the yearly value of two thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty millions of livres, unleſs ſupplied by art and induſtry.—Of the ſeventeen millions of people, he ſuppoſes twelve millions to reſide in cities and great towns, whilſt the country wants people to till the ground. That this defect is, in part, owing to Cardinal Richlieu's ſyſtem, in re-uniting the ſupreme authority in one ſingle point—the King: whereas, before, France was divided into many ſovereignties, under particular lords, which kept the people at a greater diſtance from each other. But now men croud to court, from whence flows all favours. Another cauſe is the unequal diſtribution of lands.—And that, were all the lands of France equally divided, there would be nine acres and a half for each perſon.”

This eſſay is rather a curious and fanciful piece of ſpeculation, than a ſcheme entirely reducible to practice: yet many uſeful inferences may be drawn by ſtateſmen, &c. from ſuch politico-arithmetical eſſays.

In this ſame year 1758, by the diligent and provident application of his Britannic Majeſty, and his miniſters, the good fortune of the nation, in its American provinces, began to be conſpicuous againſt France.

I. By our taking the town and fort of Louiſbourg, with the iſles of Cape Breton and St. John; whereby we were once more put in poſſeſſion of the key to the trade, navigation, and fiſhery of North America: and without which key conſtantly remaining in our hands, (or at leaſt its not remaining in the poſſeſſion of any other power, and more eſpecially of France) neither our continental colonies, nor our Newfoundland and New England fiſheries, can ever long remain ſafe and proſperous.

II. And to add to our good fortune, in this ſame year 1758, the forces in the province of New York took and razed the French fortreſs of Frontenac, on the Lake of Ontario, as alſo Fort du Queſne, on the river Ohio, which the French had taken from us two years before; which latter fort has been rebuilt by us, by the new name of Pittſburg. Both which fortreſſes were perfidiouſly built by the French, through our own ſupineneſs, on the territory of the province of New York, and in time of peace.

III. Laſtly, to crown the glory and felicity of this year, and juſt at the very cloſe of it, a ſquadron of our navy, with ſome land-forces on board, took the iſle of Goree, lying near the mouth of the vaſt river Senegal, known to the ancients by the name of the river Niger; we having, ſome months before, alſo taken from France their forts in that river, to which the iſle of Goree was deemed a protection and ſecurity. By thoſe conqueſts we have acquired a new and very conſiderable branch of commerce, in poſſeſſing the entire trade for gum Senega, or Senegal, before ſolely enjoyed by the French on that river and coaſt, a drug extremely

A. D. 1758 uſeful and neceſſary in our ſilk manufactures, &c. There are alſo ſeveral other uſeful drugs to be had there, as well as gold duſt; and probably alſo this conqueſt will prove an addition to our ſlave trade.

1759 Proviſions ſtill continuing dear, an act paſſed in the thirty-ſecond year of King George the Second, For continuing, for a further Time, the Prohibition of the Exportation of Corn, Malt, Flour, Bread, Biſcuit, and Starch; and alſo to continue the Prohibition of the making of Low-Wines, and Spirits, from Wheat, Barley, Malt, or any other Grain, Meal, or Flour, as alſo from Bran.

Yet, by a ſubſequent act, of the ſame ſeſſion of Parliament, (by reaſon of a better crop of corn, &c.) the ſaid prohibition of the exportation of corn, &c. and of the payment of any bounty on exportation thereof, was to ceaſe from and after Lady-day, 1759.

By another ſtatute, of the ſaid ſeſſion, the free importation of all ſorts of live cattle from Ireland to Great Britain was permitted for the ſpace of five years, from and after the firſt of May 1759; exempted from the payment of all ſubſidies, cuſtoms, &c.

And by the very next ſtatute it was enacted, That the duties payable upon tallow imported from Ireland ſhould be diſcontinued, from the ſaid firſt of May 1759, for the ſpace of five years; its preamble importing, " That it may tend to the eaſe of the public and advantage of " the revenue, by reducing the high price and encouraging the conſumption of candles in this " kingdom."

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament, of the thirty-ſecond of King George II. For applying a Sum of money granted in this Seſſion of Parliament towards carrying on the Works for fortifying and ſecuring the Harbours of Milford, in Pembrokeſhire, a ſecond ſum of ten thouſand pounds was granted for further carrying on the ſame.——And an account of the application of the monies appropriated towards carrying on the ſaid works is hereby directed to be laid before both Houſes of Parliament, within twenty days after the opening of every ſeſſion.

The Britiſh acts of Parliament, of the eighteenth and twenty-firſt years of King George II. for prohibiting the Wearing and Importation of Cambrics and French Lawns, not having proved effectual for preventing the fraudulent Importation thereof; it was in this thirty-ſecond year of King George II. enacted, For the more effectual preventing the fraudulent Importation of Cambrics and French Lawns.

" I. That, from the firſt of Auguſt 1759, none ſuch ſhall be imported, unleſs they be " packed in bales, caſes, or boxes, covered with ſack-cloth or canvas, containing each one " hundred whole pieces; otherwiſe to be forfeited.

" II. Cambrics and French Lawns ſhall be imported for exportation only, to be lodged in " the King's Warehouſes, and not to be delivered out but under the like ſecurity and reſtric" tions as prohibited Eaſt India goods.——And no cuſtoms or duties whatever ſhall be paid " or ſecured thereon, other than half the old ſubſidy, which is to remain by law, after the " goods are exported again,—&c."

The importation of woollen broad cloth, of the manufacture of France, into any ports of the Levant ſeas on behalf of Britiſh ſubjects, being not only a manifeſt diſcouragement and prejudice to the woollen manufactures of Great Britain, but is likewiſe a means of affording relief to the enemy:—an act therefore of this thirty-ſecond year of King George II. paſſed, For the better preventing their Importation into the Ports of the Levant Sea, on behalf of Britiſh

Subjects:

1759 Subjects: and for the more effectual preventing the illegal Importation of Raw Silk and Mohair Yarn into the Kingdom.

"Firſt, No ſuch woollen goods of French manufacture ſhall be ſo imported within the "limits of the charter of the Engliſh Turkey or Levant Company, on account of any Britiſh "ſubject.

"Secondly, Nor ſhall any woollen broad cloth, or other Britiſh woollen goods, be imported to any place within the limits of the Turkey Company's charter, except directly "from this kingdom on account of any Britiſh ſubject, unleſs the importer ſhall produce a "certificate to the Britiſh ambaſſador, or the conſul, vice-conſul, or other proper officer appointed by the Levant or Turkey Company, at the port where ſuch goods ſhall be imported, "upon oath from the exporter or ſhipper at the laſt place of exportation, That the ſame were "brought or received from Great Britain. In which certificate ſhall be the name of the ſhip "and of the maſter, as well as the time when imported; alſo the bill of lading from Great "Britain.——otherwiſe to be deemed French, and to be accordingly confiſcated.

"Thirdly, All Britiſh merchants in Turkey ſhall, before his exporting any goods from "thence, make oath before the Britiſh ambaſſador, or conſul, &c. That the ſame were not "purchaſed with the produce of French woollen goods: and the importer thereof into Great "Britain ſhall there alſo make the like oath."

This act was occaſioned by diſcoveries very lately made of Britiſh ſubjects fraudulently ſhipping from Leghorn quantities of French woolen cloths for Turkey under the denomination of Engliſh, to the great detriment of the Britiſh woollen manufactures.

By the ſaid act alſo, proviſion was made againſt another fraudulent practice, viz.

Whereas the woollen manufactures of France are of late years ſent to Turkey, in great quantities; and the French, in return thereof, bring back raw ſilk and other commodities to Marſeilles and other ports, which have afterwards been carried thence into Italy, from whence they were afterwards ſhipped for Great Britain, in Engliſh ſhips; greatly to the diſcouragement of the Britiſh woollen manufactures and to the advancement of thoſe of France; meaſures were therefore hereby laid down for preventing both the ſaid abuſes. But this act was to continue in force during the war in France, and no longer.

There being an unuſual ſcarcity of gold and ſilver at this time in England, partly occaſioned by much money having been carried out of the nation, on account of our expenſive wars in Germany and America, &c. and partly by the large demand for the current ſervice of the year 1759, the Bank of England for the better accommodating of the public in their receipts and payments, did, in April 1759, iſſue caſh-notes for fifteen pounds, and for ten pounds; which have proved very convenient for payments both in gold and ſilver in making up of larger ſums. Poſſibly, that bank, without any great inconvenience to themſelves, and with conſiderable convenience to the public, (more eſpecially in the country, now that the forging or altering them is rendered ſo difficult) might iſſue notes as low as five pounds; but lower than that ſum would probably be attended with real inconveniencies, in a country of ſo extenſive an inland commerce: although, as we have elſewhere obſerved, notes of the two incorporated Edinburgh banks, even ſo low as twenty ſhillings ſterling, are circulated all over that country, and prove extremely uſeful in fairs and country places.

In the month of May, in the ſame year, the fine and fertile French Weſt India iſle of Guadaloupe, after having held out ever ſince February preceding againſt a Britiſh ſea and land force, A.D. 1759 ſurrendered to our troops by capitulation. It is by ſome computed to produce no leſs than forty thouſand hogſheads of ſugar, one year with another; but this is ſince known to be exaggerated.

In that ſame month and year, the foreign newſpapers acquainted the public, that the King of Denmark, having ordered an account to be made of the number of men, women, and children, throughout all his extenſive dominions of Denmark, Norway, Holſtein, the iſlands in the Baltic, and the counties of Oldenburgh and Delmenhorſt, in Weſtphalia; they amounted to two millions four hundred and forty-four thouſand ſouls. It does not thereby appear that his Daniſh Majeſty's ſubjects in Iceland are included in this cenſus; though, conſidering the barrenneſs of that iſle, and its lamentably cold climate, they can be but few in number.

We had public advices, in this year 1759, from Charles Town, in South Carolina, of a very hopeful proſpect in that province of the gradual and conſiderable progreſs and increaſe of the production of raw-ſilk there, and in the adjoining province of Georgia, viz.

" In the year 1757, one thouſand and fifty-two pound weight of raw-ſilk balls were received " at the Filature in Georgia: and the next year produced no leſs than ſeven thouſand and " forty pound weight thereof. And that, in this year 1759, there has been received at Savannah, the capital of Georgia, conſiderably above ten thouſand pound weight of raw-ſilk, " although the ſeaſon has not been favourable. This great increaſe of that rich, new, and " valuable production in thoſe provinces is owing to the increaſed number of hands in raiſing " the ſame."

We cannot more emphatically deſcribe the triumphs or glories of the Britiſh monarchy during the ſame year 1759, than by tranſcribing part of the congratulatory addreſs of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, preſented to his Britannic Majeſty on the twentieth of October 1759, viz.

They humbly beſeech his Majeſty to accept of their moſt humble but warmeſt congratulations upon the rapid and uninterrupted ſeries of victories and ſucceſſes, which, under the divine bleſſing, have attended his arms both by ſea and land, within the compaſs of this diſtinguiſhed and ever memorable year. " The reduction of fort Du Queſne, on the Ohio;— " of the iſland of Goree, in Africa:—and of Guadaloupe, with its dependencies, in the Weſt " Indies.—The repulſe and defeat of the whole French army, by a handful of infantry, on " the plains of Minden.—The taking of Niagara, Ticonderago, and Crown-Point.—The " naval victory off Cape-Lagos.—The advantages gained over the French nation in the Eaſt " Indies:—and above all, the conqueſt of Quebec, (the capital of the French empire in North " America) in a manner ſo glorious to your Majeſty's arms, againſt every advantage of ſitu- " ation and ſuperior numbers, are ſuch events as will for ever render your Majeſty's auſpici- " ous reign the favourite æra in the hiſtory of Great Britain.——Meaſures of ſuch national " concern, ſo invariably purſued, and acquiſitions of ſo much conſequence to the power and " trade of Great Britain, are the nobleſt proofs of your Majeſty's paternal affection, and re- " gard for the true intereſt of your kingdoms, and reflect honour upon thoſe whom your Ma- " jeſty has been pleaſed to admit into your councils, or to intruſt with the conduct of your " fleets and armies.—Theſe will ever command the lives and fortunes of a free and grateful " people, in defence of your Majeſty's ſacred perſon and royal family, againſt the attempts of " all your enemies," &c.

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1759 As the grants of the Parliament of Great Britain, for the ſervice of the year 1759, ſo far ſurpaſſed all former ones, we thought they well merited a place in this work, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
For ſixty thouſand ſeamen, including fourteen thouſand eight hundred and forty-five marines, and ordnance for ſea ſervice	3,120,000	0	0
For fifty-two thouſand three hundred and forty-three effective men, for guards and garriſons, and other land forces, in Great Britain, Guernſey, and Jerſey	1,256,131	0	0
For pay of general and ſtaff officers, and officers of the hoſpital	52,484	0	0
For forces and garriſons in the Plantations and Gibraltar, proviſions for garriſons in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Providence, Cape Breton, and Senegal	742,531	0	0
For four regiments of foot, and one battalion, on the Iriſh eſtabliſhment, ſerving in North America and Africa	40,879	0	0
For ordnance for land ſervice	220,790	0	0
For extra-expence of ordnance 1758, not provided for	323,988	0	0
For ordinary of the navy, and half-pay to officers	238,491	0	0
For Greenwich Hoſpital	10,000	0	0
For thirty-eight thouſand troops of Hanover, Wolfenbuttle, Saxa-Gotha, and Buckeburg, with the general and ſtaff-officers	398,698	0	0
For nineteen thouſand and twelve Heſſians, with general and ſtaff officers, the hoſpital and train of artillery; purſuant to treaty	339,480	0	0
Towards defraying the charges of forage, &c. for the army under Prince Ferdinand	500,000	0	0
Towards paying off the debts of the navy	1,000,000	0	0
For allowance to the officers and private men of the Horſe Guards and regiment of Horſe reduced, and the ſuperannuated men of the Horſe Guards	2,959	0	0
For the reduced officers of the land forces and marines	34,368	0	0
For penſions to widows married before the twenty-fifth of December 1716	2,128	0	0
To the King of Pruſſia, purſuant to convention	670,000	0	0
To the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, purſuant to treaty	60,000	0	0
To defray the like ſum voted laſt ſeſſion, and charged on the aids	800,000	0	0
For building, rebuilding, and repairing the King's ſhips	200,000	0	0
For Chelſea Hoſpital	26,000	0	0
For widening, &c. the paſſage over London Bridge	15,000	0	0
For the Foundling Hoſpital	50,000	0	0
For the tranſport ſervice, &c. for land forces, 1758	667,772	0	0
For the colony of Nova Scotia, 1759	9,902	0	0
For the charge thereof, 1757	11,279	0	0
For the civil eſtabliſhment of Georgia	4,058	0	0
For deficiency on wine licenſes, and duty on coals exported	24,371	0	0
Carried forward £.	10,821,309	0	0

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	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	10,821,309	0	0
For ditto on glaſs and ſpirituous liquors	8,882	0	0
For the Britiſh forts on the coaſts of Africa	10,000	0	0
To Dr. Long, Lowndes's Aſtronomical Profeſſor at Cambridge, for diſcharging a mortgage on an eſtate demiſed by Thomas Lowndes, Eſq. inventor of a method for meliorating brine ſalt, for the endowment of the ſaid Profeſſorſhip, &c.	1,280	0	0
For paying and cloathing the militia, to twenty-fifth of March 1760	90,000	0	0
Extra-expences of land forces in 1758	466,786	0	0
Fortifying Chatham Dock	708	0	0
——— Portſmouth Town	6,937	0	0
——— Plymouth Citadel	25,159	0	0
——— Milford Haven	10,000	0	0
Paying debts on the eſtate of Lord John Drummond	69,911	0	0
To the Eaſt India Company for defending their ſettlements	20,000	0	0
To the provinces on North America, for troops raiſed by them	200,000	0	0
To innholders who billoted the Heſſian troops 1758	2,500	0	0
For augmenting the Judges ſalaries	11,450	0	0
To the widow of N. Harding, Eſq; for printing the Journals of the Houſe of Commons	779	0	0
For intereſt of money laid out to purchaſe lands about Chatham, Portſmouth, and Plymouth	1,716	0	0
For purchaſing lands about ditto	2,443	0	0
For defraying any extra-expence of the war in 1759	1,000,000	0	0
Total ſterling money, exlcuſive of the odd ſhillings and pence	£. 12,749,860	0	0

I. Which ſum, in rubles of Ruſſia, at four ſhillings and ſix pence per ruble, amounts to	56,666,044 Rubles.
II. In German florins, at two ſhillings per florin	127,498,600 Florins.
III. In Swediſh dollars, at one ſhilling and eight pence per dollar	152,998,320 Dollars.
IV. In French livres, at ten pence halfpenny per livre, it makes no leſs than	286,663,714 Livres.

In the ſpring of the year 1758, the Britiſh Houſe of Commons had appointed a committee to conſider of reducing the weights, as alſo the meaſures of length and of capacity, to a perfect exactneſs and uniformity throughout the kingdom of Great Britain.

On the ſecond of June, in the ſame year, that committee made a report of their progreſs; and in the following ſeſſion, on the firſt of December 1758, a freſh committee was appointed for the ſaid purpoſe; and this committee took very great pains for enquiring into the original ſtandards of weights and meaſures, and into the moſt effectual means for aſcertaining and enforcing uniform and certain ſtandards thereof, as appears by their report of the eleventh and twelfth of April 1759; which report was approved of by that honourable Houſe, and was

1759 printed and publiſhed by their order. Yet, either by the multiplicity of other affairs, or through the difficulty of perfecting what had ſo well been begun, or perhaps for both thoſe reaſons, it is much to be regretted that hitherto nothing further has been done therein, conſidering how requiſite and even neceſſary ſuch a regulation has long been thought to be, by all thinking perſons, who obſerve the uncertainty, and even ſometimes confuſion, in the buſineſs of buying and ſelling certain meaſurable commodities in ſome counties, as corn, wool, &c. and the frauds committed, more eſpecially amongſt the lower people in the retail way of buſineſs. It is therefore to be hoped, that the legiſlature, in peaceable times, will find leiſure to reconſider this affair, which, though without doubt, muſt be attended with difficulty, as partly appears by the laſt-named report, will, when effectually regulated, redound very much to the credit of the legiſlature, and to the benefit of the public.

Since our laſt account of the increaſe of the linen manufacture in Scotland, in the year 1757, we have the following moſt promiſing accounts of the quantity thereof made and ſtamped for ſale, viz.

	Yards.		*£.*	*s.*	*d.*
In the year 1758	10,624,435	Value	424,141	10	7
In the year 1759	10,830,707	Value	451,390	17	3

Thus, from the year 1728, the quantity has been gradually increaſing from three millions of yards, to almoſt eleven millions.

We had the following account of the Dutch whale fiſhery in this ſame year 1759, viz. that one hundred and thirty-three ſhips brought home the produce of four hundred and thirty-five whales: which may be deemed a good year for that fiſhery; being ſomewhat above three and a quarter whales for each ſhip.

But the Hamburgers were not ſo fortunate, who in ſixteen ſhips brought home but eighteen and a half whales.

Ships arriving at, and departing from, the ports following, in the courſe of the year 1759, viz.

I. At Cadiz, ſix hundred and two ſhips, viz.

	Ships.
Engliſh — — —	114
Dutch — — —	155
Spaniſh — — —	195
French — — —	19
Portugueſe — — —	23
Swediſh — — —	17
Daniſh — — —	24
Genoeſe — — —	13
Imperial — — —	16
Venetian — — —	2
Neapolitan — — —	7
Raguſan — — —	13
Malteſe — — —	7

This much ſmaller number than uſual, eſpecially of Engliſh, is owing to the war.

II. At Dantzic, ſix hundred and twenty-ſix ſhips arrived.

III. At

1759 III. At Koningſberg, the capital of Pruſſia, eight hundred and twenty ſhips arrived, and ſeven hundred and fifty-eight ſailed.

IV. At Riga, ſix hundred and ſeventy-one ſhips arrived, and ſix hundred and ſixty-nine ſailed.

From the Dutch newſpapers we learn, that during the ſaid year 1759, there paſſed through the Sound, into the Baltic Sea, three thouſand two hundred and eighty-nine ſhips of different nations; and three thouſand five hundred and ſixty-eight ſhips re-paſſed the ſame.

Now, as by far the moſt of the two thouſand one hundred and ſeventeen ſhips, ſaid to be arrived at the above-named three cities in the Baltic muſt have been part of the ſaid three thouſand two hundred and eighty-nine ſhips, the remaining one thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-two ſhips muſt have been moſtly bound for Copenhagen, Lubeck, Stetin, Stockholm, and Peterſburg, and probably moſt of them to Peterſburg, the other ports in the Baltic, as Roſtock, Wiſmar, Revel, Narvel, &c. being much leſs conſiderable in commerce. This, though but a ſhort, and in ſome ſenſe, but a conjectural view of the navigation and trade to the Baltic, may, however, in ſome degree enable us to form an adequate idea of it.

At Venice, within the compaſs of the year 1759, there arrived one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one ſhips and veſſels, of various kinds and ſizes, 1781.

And, in the courſe of the year 1759, there were born in the city of Venice, five thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-two children; and there died ſix thouſand eight hundred and fifty-two perſons: which laſt number being multiplied by thirty, the uſual computation of perſons, out of which laſt-named number one dies annually in great and populous cities, will give two hundred and five thouſand five hundred and ſixty, for the number of ſouls remaining alive in the ſaid city of Venice.

1760 At Rome, a luſtrum, luſtration, or cenſus, of the people living in that city at Eaſter, in this year 1760, was taken; whereby it appeared, that they amounted to one hundred and fifty-five thouſand one hundred and eighty-four inhabitants, viz.

Secular Prieſts	2,827	
Monks	3,847	
Nuns	1,910	
Students	7,065	
Poor in alms-houſes	1,470	
Negroes	7	
Perſons not profeſſing the Catholic religion	52	
	11,178	
The remaining inhabitants, being laity	144,006	
Total	155,184	Perſons.

Which computation nearly agrees with Keyſler's, in our Appendix.

By a further account, there were born in Rome, between Eaſter 1759 and Eaſter 1760, five thouſand three hundred and eighteen children; and there died there ſeven thouſand one hundred and eighty-one perſons: which laſt number, multiplied by thirty, gives the whole

A. D. 1760 number of its inhabitants, viz. two hundred and fifteen thouſand four hundred and thirty perſons.

Yet, on account of above eleven thouſand perſons grown up profeſſing celibacy, if the number dying yearly be multiplied by twenty-two it will come nearer the truth, or one hundred and fifty-ſeven thouſand nine hundred and eighty-two, beſide thoſe of the Jewiſh nation.

But this laſt calculation comprehended not only the eighty-one pariſhes within the walls of that city, but likewiſe a circular diſtrict of five or ſix miles without the city: where there are vineyards, ſcattered houſes, &c.

A judicious pamphlet appearing in print in the month of April of this year 1760, entitled, The Intereſt of Great Britain conſidered, with regard to her Colonies, &c. tending to ſhew the abſolute expediency of Britain's retaining the entire country of Canada, as the only ſolid ſafety and ſecurity of our continental colonies:—we ſhall here tranſcribe from this very able author, his account of the trade of the northern or continental colonies, compared with that of our Weſt India iſles; taken from the following authentic accounts, laid before the Board of Trade and Plantations, viz.

From the year 1744 to 1748, incluſive, exported,

I.	To the Northern Colonies from Britain,	To the Weſt India Iſlands from Britain,
	£.	£.
1744	640,000	796,000
1745	534,000	503,000
1746	754,000	472,000
1747	726,000	856,000
1748	830,000	734,000
Total	3,484,000	3,361,000
	Difference	123,000
II. From 1754 to 1758, viz.		
1754	1,246,000	685,000
1755	1,177,000	694,000
1756	1,428,000	733,000
1757	1,727,000	776,000
1758	1,832,000	877,000
Total	7,410,000	3,765,000
	Difference in favour of our Northern Colonies	£. 3,645,000

Remarks:

1. The odd ſums under one thouſand pounds are omitted, as too minute in this account.

This author obſerves, that the trade to our continental colonies in America is not only greater than that to our Weſt India colonies, but is alſo annually increaſing with the increaſe of their people, and even in a greater proportion, as the people increaſe in wealth and in their ability of ſpending, as well as in numbers. But he adds, what to us appears at leaſt ſomewhat improbable, viz. that the number of people in the ſaid northern or continental colonies,

have

A. D. 1760 have been obſerved to double in about twenty-five years, excluſive of the acceſſion of ſtrangers; for which he alſo appeals to the accounts ſent over to the Board of Trade.

3. The vaſt annual increaſe of our exports to the continental colonies in the laſt-named five years, may probably be in part owing to the money remitted from hence in thoſe years for the expence of our war againſt the French in Canada, as well as to the ſaid great increaſe of thoſe colonies.

4. He alleges, that our exports to the ſingle province of Pennſylvania have, in the laſt twenty-eight years, increaſed nearly in the proportion of ſeventeen to one.

5. With reſpect to the trite objection, that the growth of the ſaid continental colonies may render them dangerous, in reſpect of the difficulty of retaining them in due ſubjection to the Britiſh empire; he *(but this is not the proper place to obſerve upon the fatal contradiction which ſucceeding times have given to his opinion)* thinks it ſcarcely merits an anſwer, as we have fourteen ſeparate governments there; having not only different governors and different conſtitutions, but likewiſe different intereſts, and in ſome of them different religious perſuaſions: and their jealouſy of each other is already ſo great, that however neceſſary an union of the colonies has long been thought by them all, for their common defence and ſecurity againſt their common enemies; yet they have never been able to effect it, nor even to agree in applying to their mother-country for the eſtabliſhing of ſuch an union.

Too much can ſcarcely be ſaid in praiſe of the vaſt improvements made in our ſiſter kingdom of Ireland, in reſpect to commerce and manufactures, ſince the acceſſion of his Majeſty King George the Second to the throne of theſe kingdoms. An Eſſay on the ancient and modern State of Ireland, publiſhed, at Dublin and London, in this year 1760, briefly deſcribes the ſame with juſtice and propriety, p, 49, 50, viz. "In this reign, and not before, our linen manufacture, in many reſpects one of the moſt profitable branches of our national commerce, has received all the encouragement from royal bounty and parliamentary ſanction, that could be reaſonably hoped for.

"Perſons of the higheſt rank, dignity, and fortune, were appointed truſtees for the propagation, encouragement, and diffuſion of this beneficial trade throughout the reſpective provinces.

"The Linen Hall was erected in Dublin, under as juſt and well-imagined regulations as any commercial houſe in Europe.

"The north of Ireland began to wear an aſpect entirely new; and from being (through want of induſtry, buſineſs, and tillage, the almoſt exhauſted nurſery of our American Plantations ſoon became a populous ſcene of improvement, traffic, wealth, and plenty; and is at this day a well planted diſtrict, conſiderable for numbers of well-affected, uſeful, and induſtrious ſubjects."

"——We no where, abſtracted from our own country, meet with a ſet of pious Patriots (in the ever honourable Dublin Society) from their private funds adorning their country in general, in every degree and branch of induſtry and improvement; and inſpired with ſentiments truly public and ſocial, munificently rewarding their countrymen, of whatſoever denomination, without favour or diſtinction, for meliorating their proper eſtates or farms,—for excelling in any production of nature or art;—for any diſcovery or invention uſeful to mankind."

This ſociety, which, for ſome years before, was merely a voluntary one, was incorporated in the year 1750.—Here, however, our author ſeems to have forgotten, that at London we

1760 have had, for a few years paſt, (*i. e.* ever ſince the year 1754) a more ſplendid, numerous and increaſing ſociety of the like nature and conſtitution; and alſo another for Scotland, at Edinburgh.

Page ſixtieth, “The trade of Ireland, however in former times miſerably reſtrained and limited, hath in this happy reign received conſiderable enlargements; ſuch as, the opening of ſeveral wool ports. The bounty on Iriſh linens, now our ſtaple commodity imported into Great Britain, and the immunity lately granted of importing thither beef, butter, tallow, candles, pork, hides, live cattle, &c. a privilege that, in its conſequences, muſt prove of ſignal advantage to both nations; to this eſpecially, as we ſhall hereby be enabled, upon any occaſional emergency, to ſupply our protecting friends, and proportionably ſtint the hands of our enemies, who (by the profuſion of wines and ſpirituous liquors, annually exported from France to Ireland, in exchange for our beef, butter, &c. to paſs over the glut of teas and ſpirits, &c. ſmuggled thence by the weſtern runners) have conſtantly the balance on their ſide. Our exports, with thoſe already mentioned, conſiſt in a few cheeſes, ſalmon and kelp. But as our linens are, without queſtion, become the vital ſpring of Iriſh commerce, it is matter of great concern, and equal ſurprize, that the other provinces do not more univerſally and effectually follow the lucrative example of the North, ſince it is evident that nothing but equal induſtry can be wanting to render them equally flouriſhing; yet the over-growth of graziers and ſtock-maſters is the ſtrongeſt indication that can be of national waſte and decay in reſpect of inhabitants.

“Would not a foreigner ſtart, even at our humanity, as well as at our want of national wiſdom and œconomy, on ſeeing the beſt arable grounds in the kingdom, in immenſe tracts, wantonly enjoyed by the cattle of a few petulant individuals, and at the ſame juncture our highways and ſtreets crowded with ſhoals of mendicant fellow-creatures, reduced, through want of proper ſuſtenance, to the utmoſt diſtreſs. Would not a Frenchman give a ſhrug extraordinary, at finding in every little inn, Bourdeaux, Claret, and Nantz brandy, though, in all likelihood, not a morſel of Iriſh bread. It is much to be hoped, that when the ſpirit of tillage ſhall become more general, we may have a ſufficient plenty of malt liquors of our own native produce. Gardening is of late years ſo vaſtly improved amongſt us, that we now have many curious plants, fruits and flowers, never heard of in former times. Yet many intelligent perſons of all ranks complain much of the want of ſome eſtabliſhment in the way of a national bank, to ſecure popular credit and the kingdom from the various alarming ſhocks it is ſo frequently incident to, on account of the failure of particular or private banks.”

From Ireland we have further received the following diſagreeable accounts, from a judicious private hand; viz.

I. That ſince the year 1757, the quantity of the exportation of their linens has been gradually leſſening; and the following is its ſtate for two years paſt; viz.

Linens of all ſorts exported for one year, ended at Lady-day 1759,

		£.	s.	d.
14,093,431	yards; which valued, at a medium, at ſixteen-pence per yard, comes to — —	939,562	1	4
Ditto in 1760,				
13,375,456¼	yards, valued at ditto, per yard, —	891,697	1	8
717,974¾	yards, decreaſed. Valued at ditto,	47,864	19	8

Poſſibly

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Poſſibly the annual increaſe of the linen manufacture of Scotland may partly, if not entirely, account for this decreaſe in Ireland.

That the quantity of Iriſh linens ſo exported, is excluſive of what is conſumed within that kingdom. And that the quantity of linen yarn annually exported to Great Britain is nearly equal in value to the yarn that is conſumed, or wove up into the ſaid exported linens.

Our ſaid correſpondent has tranſmitted to us, by way of anſwer to our requeſt, of knowing how many cities there may be in Ireland, of twenty thouſand inhabitants and upwards, the following account for the year 1760; viz.

I. Dublin city, in the year 1760, contained thirteen thouſand four hundred and ſixty-one houſes. The author of the new Geography of Ireland, printed at Dublin, in the year 1752, gives to Dublin city no fewer than nineteen thouſand three hundred and fifty-two houſes; in which ſurely he has gone greatly beyond the truth: which firſt-named number, multiplied by ſeven, or allowing ſeven perſons to each houſe, on an average, being very probably near the fact, makes its people amount to ninety-four thouſand two hundred and twenty-ſeven.

This account of the magnitude of Dublin, by no means agrees with the generally received rule of multiplying the total number of perſons dying annually, by thirty-three, if in ſmall and healthy places, or in the open country; or by thirty, if in great cities, where debauchery and the uſe of ſpirituous liquors are prevalent Seeing all the mortality bills which we have met with of Dublin come ſhort of two thouſand perſons yearly; which laſt number being multiplied even by thirty-three, (the healthieſt number) gives but ſixty-ſix thouſand perſons: we have therefore ground to conclude, that in this, and many other inſtances, the accounts received of the annual mortality bills in general, are far from being to be depended on; as, in the inſtances of Newcaſtle, Mancheſter, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c. at home, and of Hamburg, and other cities beyond ſea, plainly enough appear.

II. Cork city contained eight thouſand two hundred and ſixty-eight houſes, and, by the ſame computation, fifty-ſeven thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy-ſix inhabitants.

The city of Cork in Ireland has long been famous for her immenſe annual exportations to foreign parts, and more eſpecially to our own American iſland colonies, of ſalt proviſions, &c. beef, pork, and butter, alſo of cheeſe, hides, &c. The ſaid Iriſh geographer gives to Cork eight thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-ſix houſes.

III. Limerick city contained three thouſand ſix hundred and forty houſes, and twenty-five thouſand four hundred and eighty inhabitants.

The city of Limerick is finely ſituated on the great river Shannon, for the Weſt India and other trades; the ſame may be ſaid as of Cork, though not in ſo great a degree. The above-quoted Iriſh geographer gives to Limerick three thouſand nine hundred and fifty-nine houſes.

IV. And Waterford city contained three thouſand two hundred and eighty-four houſes, and twenty-two thouſand nine hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants.

Waterford is alſo a well-traded port, on the eaſt ſide of Ireland, with a conſiderable reſort of ſhipping. The above-quoted Iriſh geographer gives to Waterford but two thouſand ſix hundred and thirty-ſeven houſes.

The ſupplies granted by the Parliament of Great Britain for the ſervice of the year 1760, amounted to ſo vaſt a ſum as fifteen millions five hundred and three thouſand five hundred and ſixty-four pounds fifteen ſhillings and nine-pence halfpenny.

In the former part of this year 1760, the Dutch Eaſt India Company divided fifteen per cent. amongſt their proprietors for the preceding year's dividend. And as that company's

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1760 capital ſtock uſually ſold at from three hundred and ninety-ſeven per cent. to four hundred and ten, we will ſuppoſe four hundred per cent. to be the mean price, (for the ſake of a round number) then the purchaſers at this time made three three-fourths per cent. of their money; which, conſidering the fluctuating ſtate of ſuch trading ſocieties, proceeding from various loſſes, &c. is far from an alluring dividend.

In this ſame year we were informed, that the Dutch Weſt India Company divided two and a half per cent. for one year paſt, their long decayed ſtock uſually ſelling at from thirty-two to thirty-three per cent. Theſe dividends being duly conſidered, we are not to think it ſtrange that the monied people of Holland are ſo deeply concerned in the Britiſh national funds, even though at the low intereſt of three per cent. as the ſaid intereſt is ſo certainly and punctually paid, without any riſque, excepting the fluctuating of the daily market prices of the funds, and the commiſſions to their agents here.

The high prices of ſpirituous liquors manufactured in Great Britain, wiſely occaſioned by ſome late ſtatutes, having greatly leſſened the conſumption thereof amongſt the commonalty, and thereby contributed very much to their health, ſobriety and induſtry; for the prevention of the return of former miſchiefs, an act of Parliament paſſed in this thirty-third year of King George II. For preventing the exceſſive Uſe of Spirituous Liquors, by laying additional Duties thereon: and for encouraging the Exportation of Britiſh-made Spirits, &c.—Which law has further contributed to the ſaid ſalutary end, which, however, is unneceſſary to be enlarged on in this work.

Several other good laws were made in the ſaid ſeſſion of Parliament, for the eaſe of commerce, and convenience and ſafety of the people: ſuch as,

Firſt, That for further extending the time limited for the importation of ſalted beef, pork and butter from Ireland; ſtill further continued by the ſeſſion, in the year 1761.

Secondly, The removing the gunpowder magazine from its preſent ſituation at Greenwich, where it was ſo dangerous, to Purfleet, a place of greater ſafety.

Thirdly, For the further enlarging and improving the fortifications and docks of Portſmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth.

Fourthly, For the further preventing of frauds relating to the cuſtoms, and the granting liberty to export the rice of and from Carolina, directly to any part of Europe, ſouth of Cape Finiſterre, in ſhips navigated according to law. And,

Fifthly, That for widening of certain ſtreets, lanes, &c. in the city of London, and for opening certain new ſtreets, and clearing away of many nuiſances therein, for the convenience of carriages and paſſengers; ſo that this noble city already begins to wear a new and more elegant face, by its old and narrow gates being removed, new and airy openings made, and many more intended. Whereby, it is to be hoped, her moſt wealthy citizens will no longer have reaſon to remove into the weſtern ſuburbs, under pretence of the want of free and freſh air, but will end their days with comfort and ſatisfaction, in the places where Providence had bleſſed their induſtry with plentiful fortunes.

His Majeſty of Great Britain, toward the cloſe of this year, incorporated Fort Marlborough, at or near Bencoolen, in the iſland of Sumatra in the Eaſt Indies, by the name of the Mayor and Aldermen of Fort Marlborough. Yet in this ſame year the French found means to ſurprize this place.

The ſame worthy Dutch merchant, who had ſupplied us with a liſt of the number of people contained in each of nineteen of the moſt principal towns of the ſingle province of Holland, which

A. D. 1760 which we have given in our appendix, obliged us alſo with the current prices of the Dutch Eaſt India and Weſt India Companies reſpective capital ſtocks, during nine months of the preſent year 1760, viz. from January to September, both included, during which time the higheſt price of their Eaſt India Company's ſtock was four hundred and thirteen per cent. and fluctuated between that price and three hundred and eighty-two, its loweſt price: difference thirty-one per cent. And in the ſame time, the higheſt price of their Weſt India Company's ſtock was thirty-three one-fourth per cent. and its loweſt price was twenty-nine three-fourths, the difference being three one-half per cent.

On the eighth of September 1760, the town of Montreal, together with the reſt of Canada, was by capitulation ſurrendered by the French Governor Vaudreuil, to Major General Amherſt, commander in chief of the forces of his Britannic Majeſty.

From this acquiſition, how vaſt an addition of territory then accrued to the Britiſh empire in America; how much greater ſafety and ſecurity did the ancient continental colonies thereby obtain, in removing from behind them ſo enterpriſing, reſtleſs, and perfidious a nation? and, which is of much more importance to us, we alſo thereby become poſſeſſed of all the fur and peltry trade of that continent which we did not before enjoy, in exchange for our coarſe woollen and other manufactures, iron tools of many kinds, kitchen and houſhold furniture, with other copper and braſs utenſils, lead-ſhot, gunpowder, firelocks, ſwords, &c. but we wiſh we could not add, rum in great quantities, ſo greatly debauching the morals, &c. of the Indians. How great an increaſe of our national commerce then muſt this acquiſition be, even in our days; and how much more will it not probably be improved in future ages, when our Indian traders and wood rangers will undoubtedly diſcover many new nations to traffic with, very far back, or weſtward, into that vaſt country; until they at length, and it is to be hoped very ſoon, ſhall open or diſcover a way to the ocean of Japan and China: a diſcovery which, in the womb of Providence, may, and probably will, be attended with great, and perhaps very ſurpriſing alterations in the courſe of commerce; a diſcovery too, which will infallibly enable us to determine the ſo long controverted, and ſo frequently in vain attempted point, of a north-weſt paſſage by ſea to the ſaid eaſtern parts of Aſia, and the extreme weſtern parts of America, by a ſhorter and ſafer courſe than from Hudſon's Bay, without any future freſh attempts from ſo miſerable a ſhore, where it is at preſent ſo unlikely ever to be found. And well worth any reaſonable expence it will be found to be, to ſet about ſuch a weſtern journey, with Indian guides, as ſoon as poſſible.

That part of Sweden, ſituated at the further north end of that kingdom, and known by the name of Lapmarck, adjoining to Lapland, has very lately been ſo much improved and civilized, that in the diet of Sweden, at the cloſe of this year 1760, the ſpeaker of the houſe of peaſants (*i. e.* farmers) tells their King, in expreſſion of their gratitude for his goodneſs and care of that northern part of his dominions, "That thoſe parts which have hitherto appeared "wild, uncultivated, and moſtly uninhabited, wear at preſent a quite different face, being "now covered with dwellings, and its lands cultivated; and for the firſt time, ſays he, ſince "the creation of the world, this new people appear in the diet with us, by their repreſenta-"tives. How would it rejoice our hearts, to ſee our dear country extend its bounds more "and more, by the draining of moraſſes, and other lands covered with water, and by the "peopling of deſarts."

The following mortality accounts, &c. of foreign and ſome Britiſh places, for or during the year 1760, are all that we have been able to procure; and even ſome of thoſe are too doubtful to be entirely depended on, viz.

At

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1760 At Amſterdam, in the year 1760. Buried, ſeven thouſand ſeven hundred perſons. Ships arrived in the Texel, one thouſand four hundred and twelve of different nations.

At the Hague, in the year 1670—Buried one thouſand and ninety perſons.

At Hamburg, in its five pariſh churches.—Chriſtened, two thouſand ſix hundred and eighty one children; nine hundred forty-eight couple married; and one thouſand nine hnndred and twenty-two perſons buried. But this account of burials from the Dutch newſpapers, concerning Hamburg, is excluſive of its ſuburbs.

At Vienna, during the year 1760, viz.—Born, five thouſand one hundred and ninety-three. Buried, ſix thouſand three hundred and twenty.

At Stockholm.—Born, two thouſand one hundred and twenty. Buried, three thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-eight.

At or in the entire iſland of Zealand, including the capital city of Denmark, Copenhagen, —Born, nine thouſand five hundred and forty-five. Buried ten thouſand and fourteen perſons.

It is generally ſaid there are about nine hundred pariſhes in this fruitful iſle of Zealand; and as there are alſo ſeveral towns and villages in it, this Dutch account cannot be exact without making Copenhagen leſs conſiderable than Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, which alſo the Danes themſelves, whom we have conſulted, readily acknowledge. yet Copenhagen is, without doubt, the finer city of the two.

At Paris.—Born, nineteen thouſand and fifty-eight; of which number there were about five thouſand foundlings. Buried, eighteen thouſand four hundred and forty-ſix.

At London, by the pariſh clerks printed accounts.—Born, fourteen thouſand nine hundred and fifty-one, excluſive of foundlings. Buried, nineteen thouſand eight hundred and thirty perſons.

At Dublin.—Born, one thouſand ſeven hundred and fifteen. Buried, one thouſand nine hundred and ninety-three; and, by a medium of three years, one thouſand eight hundred and eighty two two-thirds buried.

At Norwich.—Born, one thouſand and thirty-five. Buried, one thouſand and ſixty four.—Decreaſed in the burials, three hundred and ſixty-three perſons.

At Liverpool.—Born, ſeven hundred and ſeventy-four. Buried, ſeven hundred and ſeventeen.—Decreaſed in the burials, two hundred and ſixty-four perſons.

At Newcaſtle upon Tyne.—Born, ſix hundred and eighty-eight. Buried, five hundred and twenty-two.

The city of Glaſgow, in the year 1759, buried one thouſand and thirty-four perſons; but for this year 1760, we have ſeen no account; yet in 1761, their bill of mortality was but nine hundred and five perſons.

The towns of Mancheſter and Birmingham have each, of late years, been ſaid to have buried about, or ſomewhat above nine hundred perſons yearly; yet Mancheſter is, by moſt people, thought to be conſiderably larger than Birmingham: and, with reſpect to both places, and alſo to Liverpool, Norwich, and Newcaſtle, we are perſuaded the yearly mortality accounts are much under-rated; which conſideration will, we hope, excite a legal or authoritative enquiry into this ſubject.

It is much to be wiſhed that our own great and manufacturing towns of Exeter, Taunton, Froome, Devizes, Worceſter, Birmingham, Mancheſter, Leeds, Halifax, Sheffield, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Norwich, Colcheſter, Canterbury, &c. were legally obliged to tranſmit to

the

A. D. 1760 the Board of Trade and Plantations, exact annual accounts of their burials and births; as an obvious good uſe might be made of ſuch a regulation.

Scotland's linen manufacture ſtill continues to increaſe by large ſtrides every year.

For, during the year 1759, there was ſtamped for ſale, beſide the very conſiderable quantities manufactured yearly by private families, for their own uſe,

	Yards.		*Value.* £.	*s.*	*d.*	*Sterling.*
	10,830,707	—	451,390	17	3	
And in the year 1760	11,747,728	—	522,153	10	4	
Increaſed in 1760	917,021	Increaſed in value	71,762	13	1	

On the nineteenth of March 1761, an end was put to the eleventh Britiſh Parliament; at the concluſion whereof it appeared, that there had been actually granted for the ſupplies of the year 1691, ſo vaſt a ſum, as would formerly, that is, but half a century ago, have been thought impoſſible for the Britiſh nation to have raiſed in one year, viz. no leſs than eighteen million eight hundred and ſixteen thouſand and nineteen pounds nineteen ſhillings and ninepence three-farthings ſterling, for the ſervices of that year, and for certain arrears incurred in ſome former years.

We ſhall here give our readers the ſeparate heads of ſo vaſt and unparalleled an expence, as publiſhed in the common newſpapers, being well worth the recording, as a matchleſs proof of the increaſe of our riches by commerce, and of what the Britiſh nation can do upon a great emergency, though indeed not what, in times of tranquillity, it can prudently pretend to do, viz.

1. SEA SERVICE.

	£.	s.	d.
For ſeventy thouſand ſeamen, including eighteen thouſand three hundred and fifty-five marines, for the ordinary of the navy, naval hoſpitals at Portſmouth and Plymouth, tranſport and victualling ſervice, navy debt, building and repairs of King's ſhips, —	5,594,790	7	0
2. Ordnance, — — — —	728,716	13	11

3. LAND SERVICE.

For ſixty-four thouſand nine hundred and ſeventy-one men, (including four thouſand and eight invalids) for guards, garriſons in Great Britain, Germany, the plantations, Africa, and Eaſt India:—General and ſtaff-officers:—The new militia in England:—Thirty-nine thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-three troops of Hanover:—Two thouſand one hundred and twenty horſe, and nine thouſand nine hundred foot of Heſſe; and one thouſand five hundred and ſeventy-ſix horſe, and eight thouſand eight hundred additional Heſſian foot:—One thouſand two hundred and five horſe, and two thouſand two hundred and eight foot of Brunſwick, with deficiency thereon laſt year:—For five artillery battalions in Germany:—Ex-

Carried over, 6,323,507 0 11

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over,	6,323,507	0	11
tra expences, in the year 1760:—Forage, bread waggons, artillery, &c.—Reduced officers and troopers in horſe-guards, &c.—Chelſea out-penſioners:—Other extra expences, in the year 1760:—Extraordinaries to the Chancery at War at Hanover, in the years 1757 and 1758:—Embodied militia, 1761, &c. — —	7,625,193	1	4½
4. VARIOUS SERVICES, viz.			
Supply of credit of laſt ſeſſion—London-bridge repairs—Exchequer bills, in the year 1760—To the King of Pruſſia—To certain provinces in North America—To the Eaſt India Company—For Nova Scotia and Georgia—For Exchequer bills for navy debt—The charge of the mints—The foundling hoſpital—The African ſettlements—Debts paid off on Lord Lovat's eſtate—To the King for a ſupply of credit—To the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel —	4,650,404	4	10¾
5. DEFICIENCES, viz.			
To the ſinking fund to July 5, 1760—To make good the deficiency of the malt duty—Of duties on offices and penſions—Of ſubſidy on poundage, &c.—On coffee and chocolate—Deficiency of laſt year's grants, &c. — — — —	216,915	12	7½
Total,	18,816,019	19	9¾

If under the year 1728, we took the liberty to recommend national frugality, as the beſt means for being eaſed of national incumbrances, how much greater reaſon have we now to urge ſimilar ſalutary meaſures, when the preſent national debt is increaſed to at leaſt double of what it was in that year.

By the firſt ſtatute of the firſt year of the reign of his Britannic Majeſty King George the Third, entitled, An Act for the Support of his Majeſty's Houſhold, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of Great Britain,—it was, in ſubſtance, enacted, "That the revenue "of his Majeſty's civil liſt (or the ſupport of his houſhold, &c.) be a complete annual ſum of "eight hundred thouſand pounds, payable quarterly, clear of all incumbrances, and to ariſe "out of the aggregate fund, of which the unappropriated revenue of the poſt-office ſhould "conſtitute a part, after the preſent legal weekly and annual payments thereout ſhall be ſatiſ"fied. The ſaid civil liſt revenue to be, during his Majeſty's life, made up as follows, viz. "from the twenty-fifth of October 1760, the day of the demiſe of his late gracious Majeſty "King George the Second, viz.

	£.
I. Out of the aggregate fund, for the preſent, the clear ſum of —	723,000
During the continuance of the following annuities; *i. e.* of fifty thouſand pounds to her Royal highneſs the Princeſs Dowager of Wales.—Of fifteen thouſand pounds to his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Cumberland.—And of twelve thouſand pounds, (total ſeventy-ſeven thouſand pounds) to her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs Amelia.	
Carried over,	723,000

II. His

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	£.
Brought over	723,000
II. His Majeſty to have the ſaid annuities added to the before-named annual ſum of ſeven hundred and twenty-three thouſand pounds, as they ſhall reſpectively become vacant, ſo as at length the total of the ſaid three annuities, amounting to the ſum of — — — — — —	77,000
Shall, with the ſaid 723,000*l.* conſtitute the clear annual ſum of —	800,000

Saving, however, to his Majeſty, the revenue of the Dutchy of Cornwall, and the duties and revenues payable in Scotland to his late Majeſty during his life, and which are hereby continued during the life of his preſent Majeſty.

The permitting the importation of ſalted beef, pork, and butter, from Ireland, into Great Britain, having been found beneficial, the continuance thereof was, by a ſtatute of this ſame firſt year of King George the Third, cap. iv. further prolonged to the twenty-fourth of December 1761, notwithſtanding which the rates of fleſh meat at London ſtill continued to be ſo much higher than in former times, as, in many mens opinions, ſeemed to merit the particular conſideration of the legiſlature.

1761 The exigencies of the nation, occaſioned by ſuch an expenſive war, obliged the legiſlature to what otherwiſe would have ſeemed a hardſhip on the labouring part of the people of Great Britain, viz. by a ſtatute of the firſt ſeſſion of Parliament, and in the firſt year of his Majeſty King George III. cap. vii. in the year 1761, entitled, An Act for granting to his Majeſty an additional Duty upon ſtrong Beer and Ale; and for raiſing the Sum of twelve millions, by way of Annuities and Lottery, to be charged on the ſaid Duty; and for further encouraging the Exportation of ſtrong Beer and Ale:

I. An additional duty, by way of exciſe, of three ſhillings per barrel was, from and after the twenty-fourth of January 1761, to be paid by the brewers of all beer and ale brewed for ſale, above ſix ſhillings the barrel.

II. For the barrel of two-penny ale, of Scotland, deſcribed in the ſeventh article of the Treaty of Union, there ſhall be paid ſuch a proportional part of three ſhillings, as two ſhillings bear to four ſhillings and nine-pence.

III. Strong beer or ale brewed after the twenty-fourth of January 1761, may be exported as merchandize, to foreign parts; for which an allowance of eight ſhillings per barrel ſhall be made to the brewer, by way of drawback.

IV. Moreover, one ſhilling per barrel exported is hereby to be allowed, by way of drawback, proved to have been brewed, after the twenty-fourth of January 1761, from malted corn, when barley is at twenty-four ſhillings per quarter or under.

It was hoped by many, that theſe two claſſes of this act might have reaſonably contented the London brewers, ſo as to prevent their raiſing on the victuallers the price of their ſtrong drink; and might alſo prevent their brewing the ſame in any reſpect weaker than formerly: both which would equally bear hard on the labouring poor. But the event has not anſwered that expectation.

It is almoſt ſuperfluous to remark, that of the ſaid twelve millions, eleven millions four hundred thouſand pounds are at three per cent. in redeemable annuities; and that the remaining ſix hundred thouſand pounds was to be raiſed by way of lottery, of ſixty thouſand tickets, 1761 at ten pounds per ticket: each of the blank tickets to be entitled to ſix pounds three ſhillings per cent. annuity, and the prizes alſo to be a three per cent. annuity. And for the encouragement of ſubſcribers to the ſaid twelve millions, a long annuity for ninety-nine years, from the fifth of January 1761, of one pound two ſhillings and ſix-pence per each one hundred pounds of the ſaid eleven millions four hundred thouſand pounds three per cent. redeemable annuities was allowed to them.

The Britiſh ſtatute of the ſixth year of King George the Second, cap. xiii. in the year 1733, For the better ſecuring and encouraging the Trade of his Majeſty's Sugar Colonies in America; already exhibited by us under the ſaid year, being now near expiring, after ſeveral ſubſequent acts for its continuance; is, by a ſtatute of this firſt ſeſſion of the firſt year of King George the Third, cap. ix. further continued to Michaelmas 1763, and from thence to the end of the then next ſeſſion of Parliament.

And by cap. x. of the ſaid ſeſſion of Parliament, the act of the thirty-ſecond of King George the Second, To diſcontinue for a limited Time the Duties payable on tallow imported from Ireland, having been found of great utility and benefit to the public; and, if extended to hog's-lard and greaſe, would be of further utility; wherefore the ſaid act is now accordingly extended to hog's-lard and greaſe, during the continuance of the ſaid act. By which it is to be hoped the extravagant prices of tallow candles, which ſo much affect the manufacturers and labouring poor, may be reaſonably reduced.

And, leſt the importers of gold and ſilver into the mints of England and Scotland ſhould be diſcouraged through any deficiency of the revenue eſtabliſhed by various laws, For the Encouragement of the Coinage of Money, an act of the ſaid ſeſſion, cap. xvi. now paſſed, further to continue the duties for that end.

Having, under the preceding year, given a brief account of the four principal cities of Ireland, in reſpect of magnitude and commerce, we ſhall, under this year, exhibit the beſt account we could procure, of all the cities and towns of Great Britain, London excepted, which contain upwards of twenty thouſand inhabitants, viz.

I. Briſtol is univerſally allowed to be the largeſt city in Great Britain, next after London. The anonymous author of England's Gazetteer, publiſhed in the year 1751, makes her to contain thirteen thouſand houſes and ninety-five thouſand ſouls. When the author of this work was there in the year 1758, he perambulated it for two ſucceſſive days, and from a near examination of the number of houſes on new foundations, and even of entire new ſtreets, erected ſince the ſaid year 1751, he imagined he could not heſitate in concluding it to contain about one hundred thouſand ſouls, or to be about the magnitude of that part of London which is contained within her ancient walls. It is confeſſed, that London, within that limited compaſs, appears to be more populous, or to have more people appearing abroad in her ſtreets; but that we apprehend to be occaſioned chiefly by its communication with her vaſtly extended ſuburbs, her immenſe commerce and ſhipping, the greater reſort of foreigners, and the near reſidence of the court, nobility, gentry, and lawyers: whereas in the ſtreets of Briſtol, which are more remote from the harbour and ſhipping, the inhabitants are moſtly either private families living on their means, or elſe manufacturers and workmen of many various kinds employed altogether or moſtly within doors. We have met with ſome Iriſh gentlemen who are of opinion that the city of Dublin is larger than Briſtol, for which they allege the ſame reaſon as above-mentioned for London within her walls; and to which, we conceive, it may be anſwered, that, Dublin being the reſidence of the chief governors; of all the public offices and of-

A. D. 1761 ficers; of the guards, the nobility and gentry, with their numerous retinues, and of the courts of juſtice, as well as of the Parliaments; theſe circumſtances may occaſion a greater appearance of people in her ſtreets, without her being really larger than Briſtol.

II. Edinburgh, being the uſual reſidence of the courts of juſtice of Scotland, of the police, the boards of cuſtom and exciſe, of lawyers attending on pleas, beſide merchants, manufacturers, &c. and of a learned and well frequented univerſity; with all its ſuburbs and its proper port of Leith, may fairly be allowed to contain at leaſt ſixty thouſand inhabitants.

III. Norwich is by many thought to contain upwards of ſeven thouſand five hundred houſes, many of which are crowded with inmates of manufacturing people; if therefore eight people be allowed, on an average, to each houſe, it may contain ſixty thouſand ſouls. Or if, according to others, there be only ſeven thouſand houſes, and that ſeven perſons to each houſe be ſufficient, then forty-nine thouſand may be nearly the number of its inhabitants. But we conjecture the firſt-named computation neareſt to the truth.

We may here, by way of corollary, remark, that Norwich has, for many ages, and more eſpecially for two centuries paſt, been very eminent for the nobleſt manufacture of the fineſt ſtuffs in the world, of various kinds, with which ſhe not only ſupplies our own people in immenſe quantities, but likewiſe moſt foreign nations, and alſo the American colonies; whereby her manufacturers accumulate much wealth.

IV. Mancheſter, in Lancaſhire, merely as a town, though without being ſo much as a corporation, has probably more inhabitants than any other not already mentioned, and abounds ſo much with great variety of excellent manufactures of cottons, tickens, &c. as to employ many thouſands of journeymen weavers, beſide other workmen, women, and children, conſtantly employed, both for the foreign and home demand of thoſe goods: inſomuch, that Mancheſter is ſwelled to the bulk of a great city; many reckoning it to contain from fifty to ſixty thouſand people; and with its manufactures is daily encreaſing in extent and population.

V. Liverpool, in the ſame county, in point of a vaſtly-extended foreign commerce and mercantile ſhipping, is long ſince become undoubtedly the greateſt and moſt opulent ſea-port in the kingdom, next after London and Briſtol; probably employing about three hundred ſail of her own greater and leſſer ſhipping, moſtly in the Guinea and American trades, and is now ſaid to be thrice as large and populous as it was at the acceſſion of the late King William and Queen Mary to the crown. In ſhort, this moſt induſtrious people extend their commerce to all parts where they are not prevented by excluſive companies, and is thought to contain at this time from forty to fifty thouſand inhabitants.

VI. Birmingham, in Warwickſhire, (though ſtill alſo, like Mancheſter, an unincorporated town) is, through the general increaſe of our national commerce, gradually grown up, more eſpecially of later years, to the magnitude of a conſiderable city; by means of her vaſt, numerous, and moſt ingenious manufactures of iron, ſteel, and braſs, or hard-ware, in an almoſt endleſs variety; ſuch as, enamelled, landſcaped, and poliſhed ſteel ſnuff boxes, keys, locks, hinges, buckles, buttons, &c. not only for ſupplying ourſelves and our own foreign plantations, but almoſt all the reſt of the world therewith. This very buſy place is reckoned to contain at leaſt fifty thouſand inhabitants.

VII. In much the ſame ſort of employment has the populous town of Sheffield been more or leſs famous, even as far back as above four centuries paſt, partly by means of the iron ſtone in its vicinity, but of late much more by the general increaſe of the nation's foreign commerce. It has been peculiarly famous for the manufacture of knives and other cutlery-ware, as far

1761 back as the poet Chaucer's time, in the reign of King Edward the Third, their knives being by that poet, as ſtill by the common people further north, called whittles. There are above ſix hundred maſter cutlers there, who are a corporation, by the name of the Cutlers of Hallamſhire, of which diſtrict in Yorkſhire, Sheffield is the principal town. Sheffield town is reputed to be two miles in length and one in breadth, and to employ about forty thouſand perſons in her iron manufactures, though not all living within the town. They have likewiſe a conſiderable trade in this town for corn and alum; and are more particularly noted for making the beſt of workmens files and other iron tools for various handicrafts. Yet ſo little curious are its inhabitants in ſpeculative reſearches, that we have not been able to learn, with any preciſion, the probable number of the inhabitants of ſo populous a town, as diſtinguiſhed from the reſt of Hallamſhire; though from ſundry circumſtances they may very probably conſiderably exceed twenty thouſand people.

VIII. Newcaſtle upon Tyne has been eminent, for ſeveral centuries paſt, for its immenſe and almoſt inexhauſtible ſtaple of pit coal, called at London ſea coal, becauſe coming thither only by ſea. It ſupplies not only London, and many other parts of the kingdom, with that moſt neceſſary fuel, but likewiſe ſundry foreign parts therewith, moſtly in her own ſtrong and numerous ſhipping, in the lading of all which from the pits to the ſhips at Shields, they employ five or ſix thouſand men called keelmen: here is alſo a great manufacture of glaſs bottles, and another of hardware or wrought iron of many ſorts. It is alſo noted for its grind-ſtones, of which great quantities are exported beyond ſea. But beyond all other national benefits, the coal trade of this town is peculiarly and eminently uſeful, on any emergency, for its great number of thorough-bred mariners for manning our navy royal. It has long been a very populous place, and, including its ſuburbs of Gateſhead and North and South Shields, may probably contain about or near ſixty thouſand inhabitants.

IX. Glaſgow is a beautiful and increaſing city of Scotland, abounding in many profitable manufactures, more eſpecially of the linen kind, in great variety and beauty. She has alſo a great number of good ſhipping, trading from her port of Greenock, as well to our Weſt India Sugar-iſles, as alſo to our continent colonies, more eſpecially to our two tobacco provinces: whereby ſhe is now ſaid to be arrived to the magnitude of twenty-ſix to twenty-ſeven thouſand inhabitants, who are generally reckoned eminent for induſtry and a prudent œconomy.

☞ Theſe we apprehend to be, with London, all the cities and towns of Great Britain which, in reſpect of magnitude, may certainly contain upwards of twenty thouſand inhabitants within their reſpective liberties, boundaries, and precincts. Yet there are many other cities and towns of England, which nearly approach to that number, as may in part be ſeen in our appendix.

On the fifteenth of January 1761, his Britannic Majeſty's naval and land forces, jointly with thoſe of our Eaſt India Company, made themſelves maſters of the moſt important city and port of Pondicherry, the principal ſettlement of France in the Eaſt Indies, and the center of all their commerce there. The great ſignificance of which conqueſt all the world is ſo well acquainted with, and the loſs of which their Eaſt India Company has already ſo ſadly felt, that it is quite unneceſſary to enlarge upon it.

His Britannic Majeſty's forces by ſea and land having invaded the iſle of Belle Iſle, on the coaſt and in ſight of the province of Bretagne, its very ſtrong citadel, called Palais, ſurrendered to our troops on the ſeventh day of June 1761. It is almoſt ſuperfluous to remark, how great a mortification and humiliation this conqueſt was to France, and how much this iſland now

became

A. D. 1761 became, in our hands, a bridle to all the remaining trade and navigation on the greateſt part of the weſt coaſt of that kingdom.

In July 1761, we had an account of the Britiſh ſea and land force having, on the fourth of June, his Britannic Majeſty's birth day, maſtered the iſland of Dominica, which was deemed one of the four neutral iſles in the Weſt Indies, although France, notwithſtanding, had planted and in part fortified it: it now contained about five hundred French inhabitants, beſide negro ſlaves, and a conſiderable number of native Caribbeans.

Notwithſtanding the calamities of South Carolina, during the greateſt part of this year 1761, occaſioned by their war with the Cherokee Indians againſt their back ſettlements, yet that beautiful and fruitful province improves ſo faſt, that in only ten months, viz. from November 1760 to September 1761, we had an account publiſhed of the following exported articles, viz.

From the port of Charleſtown cleared out.

Rice — — —	100,000	barrels.
Pitch — — — —	6,376	
Tar — — — —	931	
Turpentine — — —	4,808	
Oranges — — — —	144	
Ditto — — —	161,000	looſe.
Pork and beef — — —	1,149	barrels.
Bacon — — —	13	
Indigo — —	399,366	pounds weight.
Deer ſkins — — —	422	hogſheads.
Ditto — — — —	331	bundles.
Ditto — — — —	300	looſe.
Tanned leather — — —	5,869	ſides.
Peas and corn — — —	11,126	buſhels.
Bees wax — — —	6,721	pounds weight.
Caſk ſtaves — — —	236,850	pieces.
Shingles — — —	522,167	
Boards, timber, &c. — —	466,186	feet.
Hoops — — —	29,600	pieces.

Beſide ſmaller articles, as tobacco, furs, raccoon ſkins, roots, and ſeeds of various kinds; candles, butter, reeds, raw hides, tallow, hogs lard, myrtle wax, oil of turpentine, roſin, ſoap, trunnels, &c.

The chriſtenings, at Amſterdam, in the year 1761, four thouſand four hundred and eighty, and burials ſeven thouſand ſeven hundred.

☞ The great number of Jews and of other perſuaſions, who do not chriſten nor regiſter their children, occaſions ſo great a difference between the births and burials in that city.

Ships arriving at Amſterdam, during the year 1761, were one thouſand five hundred and eight ſhips.

Our accounts from Holland, at the cloſe of this year 1761, acquaint us, that the States General had then renewed the excluſive privileges of their Eaſt India Company, for thirty years longer.

At Koningſberg, the capital city of Brandenburg Pruſſia, during the year 1761, there were born one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and buried one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy

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1761 ſeventy perſons: which number, multiplied by thirty, dying yearly in large cities, makes fifty-three thouſand one hundred inhabitants. Or, by thirty-three, gives fifty-eight thouſand four hundred and ten inhabitants.

Sailed from thence, during the year 1761, nine hundred and forty-four laden ſhips.

At Rome, by a late liſt of her inhabitants, in the year 1761, there were of

	Perſons.
males — — — — — —	90,239
Of females — — — —	67,219
Total inhabitants	157,458

Of which number there were then, of

Biſhops — — —	42
Prieſts — — —	2,742
Religious and nuns — —	4,381
Monks — —	1,725
Students — —	878
Poor, in hoſpitals, — —	1,053
Heretics, Turks, and Infidels, (the Jews excepted)	37
	10,858

Children born, four thouſand nine hundred and eighty-nine. Perſons died, ſeven thouſand one hundred and forty-nine. So that, inſtead of multiplying the number of perſons dying in a year by thirty, to form a probable gueſs at Rome's number of inhabitants, they ſhould be multiplied by twenty-two, becauſe of the great number of eccleſiaſtics, &c. nearly the real number of Rome's inhabitants, one hundred and fifty-ſeven thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-eight, Jews excepted. See the year 1760.

EXTRACT from the GENERAL BILL of all the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS, within the City and Suburbs of London and the Compaſs of the Bills of Mortality, from December 9, 1760, to December 15, 1761; printed by the Company of Pariſh Clerks of London, viz.

Chriſtened,	Males, —	8,183	Buried, Males, —	10,668
	Females, —	7,817	Females, —	10,395
	In all,	16,000		21,063

Increaſed in the burials this year one thouſand two hundred and thirty-three.

From the public regiſters of the city of Paris, viz.

Chriſtened, —	18,374	Buried,	17,674
Married, —	3,947 couple.	Foundlings,	5,418 Vide annum 1760.
Chriſtened, — —	1,949	Buried, — —	2,292
Increaſed in births, 299.		Increaſed in the burials, 234.	
Births, — —	5,672	Burials, — —	6,310
Increaſed this year, 479.		Decreaſed, 10.	
Births, — —	2,749	Burials, — —	2,593

And

A. D. 1761 And in the entire iſland or province of Zealand, ſix thouſand eight hundred and thirty-two were chriſtened, and five thouſand eight hundred and eighty-eight perſons died, and one thouſand nine hundred and fourteen couple were married. This muſt be a wrong account, it was taken from the Dutch newſpapers.—See the year 1760.

☞ We cannot pretend to anſwer for tranſcripts from newſpapers. Yet by comparing this year's accounts with thoſe of former years, the truth may nearly be gueſſed at.]

Ships arriving at the port of Cadiz, during the year 1761, viz.

	Ships.	
English	87	(whereof thirteen were ſhips of war).
Dutch	99	(whereof ſixteen were ſhips of war).
Daniſh	41	
French	22	(whereof four were ſhips of war).
Spaniſh	195	(whereof thirty-two were ſhips of war).
Portugueſe	19	
Imperial	11	
Raguſians	8	
Malteſe	4	
Genoeſe	2	
Savoyards	1	
Neapolitan	5	
	494	

1762 In February of this year 1762, his Britannic Majeſty's forces, by ſea and land, made an entire conqueſt of the very important iſland of Martinico, which the French had ſo well ſupplied and fortified, as to have boaſted, it could not be taken by any force we could ſend againſt it. It is well known to be the richeſt, moſt populous, and beſt cultivated colony which France had ever poſſeſſed in the American Seas. Its productions are the ſame with thoſe of our own Weſt India ſugar iſles, and in a ſuperior degree. It had grievouſly diſtreſſed our American commerce with their numerous privateers, which determined his Majeſty to ſend ſuch a force againſt it as could hardly fail of ſucceſs: a force ſo great as perhaps never was ſeen ſo far from Europe, and which therefore ſtruck the greater terror in our enemies, and has raiſed the reputation and glory of the Britiſh empire to the higheſt degree.

In the month of March, the Dutch Eaſt India Company's General Court agreed to raiſe a dividend on their capital ſtock of fifteen per cent. to be paid to their proprietors in the month of May following, the current price of that company's capital ſtock being three hundred and thirty-two per cent.

The moſt induſtrious and ſuperlatively mercantile town of Liverpool was, by this time, increaſed in buildings and people ſo much, that they found themſelves obliged to apply to Parliament for the purpoſe of enabling them to erect two more pariſh churches and cemetries to the former four; which accordingly paſſed into a law in the ſpring of this year.

The King of Spain having, in this ſame year, moſt unprovokedly, joined France in a declaration of war againſt Great Britain, and at the ſame time, equally unprovoked, againſt Portugal, which ſhe had moſt unaccountably invaded; it was reſolved by his Britannic Majeſty to augment the powerful land force which had conquered Martinico, and alſo the naval force

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1762 which had ſo bravely co-operated in the conqueſt of that iſland ; and to ſtrike ſuch a blow as Spain, in America, had never felt before : and with ſuch an army and navy as America had never before ſeen. With this unheard of force in the Weſt Indies, they landed on the great iſland of Cuba, and attacked the town and port of Havannah, although its fortifications were ſo many and ſo ſtrong as to have till then been univerſally deemed impregnable, more eſpecially as the ſailors of eleven Spaniſh line of battle ſhips lying in the harbour, joined ſtrenuouſly in the defence of the place ; notwithſtanding all which, the Britiſh land forces commanded by the gallant Earl of Albemarle, aſſiſted by our navy and our moſt intrepid ſailors, commanded by the no leſs gallant Sir George Pococke, Vice Admiral, maſtered at length, on the thirteenth of Auguſt, that immenſely ſtrong city, the key of the treaſures of Mexico and Peru, not only with all the treaſure in that city, but with all the royal navy lying in its harbour, and a great number of richly-laden merchant ſhips, and an immenſe quantity of rich merchandize in the King's and merchants warehouſes there: after which they made themſelves maſters of all the other forts, &c. of that great iſland. So important a conqueſt, with its conſequences, and with the grievous mortification thereby given to the court of Spain, is eaſier to be conceived than deſcribed by us, being in fact the moſt momentous acquiſition we had till then ever made in America.

In the ſummer of this ſame year 1762, the French ſurprized and took the harbour and fort of St. John's, in Newfoundland, where they did great miſchief to the ſhipping, warehouſes, &c. But Lord Colville and Lieutenant Colonel Amherſt, from New York and Halifax, in their turn, ſurprized the French there, in this ſame ſummer, and re-took the ſaid fort, making eight hundred Frenchmen priſoners, with all their ſtores, &c. And though the French had four ſhips of war there, having more cannon, tonnage, and ſailors in them than Lord Colville's four ſhips had, yet they made all haſte to get home to France, before his Lordſhip could get up to them. And thus an end was put to the ſhort-lived triumph of France on that account.

On the ſixth of October in this year, his Majeſty's land and naval forces, jointly with thoſe of our Eaſt India Company, under the command of Admiral Corniſh and Brigadier General Draper, beſieged and took the large city of Manilla, the capital of the great iſland of Luconia, the principal of the Spaniſh Phillippine Iſlands, which the Britiſh commanders permitted the Spaniſh governor to ranſom for four millions of dollars.—That ranſom, however, has never been paid.

In this ſame year, our naval force made a prize of a large Acapulco ſhip, valued at three millions of dollars.

Exchequer, 5th January 1762.

An ACCOUNT of the PUBLIC DEBTS of GREAT BRITAIN, ſtanding out at the Exchequer, on the fifth of January, 1762, with the ANNUAL INTEREST and OTHER CHARGES payable for the ſame.

Debts ſtill remaining payable at the Exchequer, viz.	*Principal Debt.* £.	s.	d.	*Annual Intereſt.* £	s.	d.
1. Long annuities, unſubſcribed into the South Sea Company, anno 1720 —	1,836,275	17	10	136,453	12	8
Carried forward £.	1,836,275	17	10	136,453	12	8

A. D.	Debts ſtill remaining and payable at the Exchequer, viz.	Principal Debt. £.	s.	d.	Annual Intereſt. £.	s.	d.
1762	Brought forward	1,836,275	17	10	136,453	12	8
	2. —— annuities for lives, with benefit of ſurvivorſhip; the original ſum contributed being	108,100	0	0	7,567	0	0
	3. Ditto for two and three lives, being the ſum remaining, after what is fallen in by deaths	76,005	14	10	9,215	12	0
	4. Exchequer bills made out for intereſt on old bills — — —	2,200	0	0			
	Total at the Exchequer £.	2,022,581	12	8	153,236	4	8

Note: The land taxes and duties on malt, being annual grants, are not charged in this account; neither is the million charged in th year 1726, on the deduction of ſix pence per pound on ſalaries and penſions, transferable at the Bank; (as not deemed a national debt). Nor the one million five hundred thouſand pounds toward paying off the navy debt, &c. in the year 1761, nor the ſum of one million charged on the ſupplies, 1762.

East India Company, viz.	Principal Debt. £.	s.	d.	Annual Intereſt. £.	s.	d.
1. By two acts of Parliament of the ninth of King William the Third, and two other acts of the ſixth and ninth of Queen Anne, now reduced to three per cent. intereſt, with allowances for charges of management to that company —	3,200,000	0	0	97,285	14	4
2. Annuities at three per cent. in the year 1744, charged on the ſurplus of additional duties on low wines, ſpirits, and ſtrong waters,—and charge of management — —	1,000,000	0	0	30,401	15	8
Total at the Eaſt India Houſe £.	4,200000	0	0	127,687	10	0

Bank of England, viz.	Principal Debt. £.	s.	d.	Annual Intereſt. £.	s.	d.
1. On their original fund, reduced to three per cent. from the firſt of Auguſt 1743, with four thouſand pounds allowed the Bank for management thereof — —	3,200,000	0	0	100,000	0	0
2. For cancelling Exchequer Bills, by the third year of King George I. — —	500,000	0	0	15,000	0	0
Carried forward £.	3,700,000	0	0	115,000	0	0

Bank of England, *continued.*	£.	s.	d.	*Principal Debt.* £.	s.	d.	*Annual Intereſt* £.	s.	d.
Brought forward				3,700,000	0	0	115,000	0	0
3. Purchaſed of the South Sea Company, in the year 1722, now at three per cent. with charge of management — —				4,000,000	0	0	121,898	3	5
4. Annuities at three per cent. charged on the duty on coals, from Lady-day 1719 —				1,750,000	0	0	52,500	0	0
5. Ditto, at three per cent. charged on the ſurplus of the funds for lottery 1714 —				1,250,000	0	0	37,500	0	0
6. Ditto, at ditto, in the year 1746, charged on the duty for licenſing ſpirituous liquors, ſince Lady-day 1746 — —				986,800	0	0	29,604	0	0
7. Annuities, at three per cent. charged on the Sinking Fund by the twenty-fifth, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth, thirty-ſecond, and thirty-third of King George II. —	21,137,821	5	1						
8. Ditto, at ditto, charged on offices and penſions, &c. by the thirty-firſt of George II.	500,000	0	0						
9. Ditto, at ditto, charged on the additional duty on ſtrong beer and ale by an act of the firſt of George III. —	11,400,000	0	0						
10. And ditto, at ditto, in lottery tickets, charged on the ſaid fund by the ſaid act, to make up twelve millions	600,000	0	0						
				33,637,821	5	1	1,020,838	5	8
11. Ditto, at three per cent. charged on the Sinking Fund, by the act of the twenty-fifth of George II. — —				17,701,323	16	4	540,996	14	0
12. Ditto, at three one-half per cent. charged on the ſaid fund by the twenty-ninth of George II.				1,500,000	0	0	53,343	15	0
13. Ditto, at three one-half per cent. charged on the duties on offices and penſions, by the thirty-firſt of George II. — —				4,500,000	0	0	160,031	5	0
14. Ditto, at three one-half per cent. charged on the additional duty on malt, &c. by the act of thirty-third George II.	8,000,000	0	0						
Carried forward £.	8,000,000	0	0	69,025,945	1	5	2,131,712	3	1

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	BANK OF ENGLAND, *continued.*	£.	*s.*	*d.*	*Principal Debt.* £.	*s.*	*d.*	*Annual Intereſt.* £.	*s.*	*d.*
	Brought forward	8,000,000	0	0	69,025,945	1	5	2,131,712	3	1
15.	Ditto, at four per cent. additional capital in lottery tickets on eight millions charged on the ſaid fund by that act	240,000	0	0						
					8,240,000	0	0	334,235	0	0
					77,265,945	1	5	2,465,947	3	1
16.	Memorandum—The ſubſcribers of one hundred pounds to the lottery 1745, were allowed an annuity for one life of nine ſhillings per ticket, which amounted to twenty-five thouſand five hundred pounds, but is now reduced, by lives fallen in, to —	18,812	15	0						
17.	And the ſubſcribers of one hundred pounds to the lottery 1746, were allowed an annuity of one life of eighteen ſhillings per ticket, which amounted to forty-five thouſand pounds, but is now reduced, by lives fallen in, to —	38,216	0	0						
18.	And the ſubſcribers of one hundred pounds for three per cent. annuities, 1757, were allowed an annuity of one life, of one pound two ſhillings and ſix pence, which amounted to thirty three thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty pounds, but is now reduced, by lives fallen in, to — —	30,937	2	6						
19.	Laſtly, The ſubſcribers of one hundred pounds for three per cent. annuities 1761 were allowed an annuity of ninety-nine years, of one pound two ſhillings and ſix pence, amounting to	128,250	0	0						
	Carried forward £.	216,215	17	6	77,265,945	1	5	2,464,947	3	1

BANK OF ENGLAND, *continued.*	£.	s.	d.	*Principal Debt.* £.	s.	d.	*Annual Payments* £.	s.	d.
Brought forward	216,215	17	6	77,265,945	1	5	2,464,947	3	1
All which annuities are an increaſe of the national debt; but cannot be added thereto, as no money was advanced for the ſame — —	216,215	17	6	..	..	..	216,215	17	6
Total transferable at the Bank, on the 5th of January 1762 — —				77,265,945	1	5			
Total annual payments at the Bank £.							2,682,163	0	7

☞ Of the before-named annual payment of two hundred and ſixteen thouſand two hundred and fifteen pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix pence, only one hundred and twenty-eight thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds is transferable at the Bank, being the annuities for ninety-nine years: the other three ſums for ſingle lives are payable at the Exchequer, and are conſtantly decreaſing.

Debts transferable at the SOUTH SEA HOUSE, *viz.*	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1. On capital South Sea ſtock, as it at preſent ſtands, dividing three one-half per cent.	3,662,784	8	6						
2. On old South Sea annuity ſtock, at three per cent.	12,404,270	2	7						
3. On new South Sea annuity ſtock, at three per cent.	8,958,255	2	10						
Total unpaid off by the act of the ninth of George I.	25,025,309	13	11						
4. Annuities, at three per cent. in the year 1751, charged on the Sinking Fund —	2,100,000	0	0						
				27,125,309	13	11	829,507	8	1

RECAPITULATION:

				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Total at the Exchequer — —				2,022,581	12	8	153,236	4	8
——— East India Houſe — —				4,200,000	0	0	127,687	10	0
——— Bank — —				77,265,945	1	5	2,682,163	0	7
——— South Sea Houſe —				27,125,309	13	11	829,507	8	1
Total national debts, and annual payments, on the 5th of January, 1762 — — } £.				110,613,836	8	0	3,792,594	3	4

N. B. The expence or charge of management is added to the annual intereſt due to the three great companies before-named; and as they ſhall at any time have part of their principal ſum paid off, a proportionable part of their allowance for management will be deducted.

3 SUPPLIES

A. D. 1762 SUPPLIES granted by the BRITISH PARLIAMENT for the ſervice of the year 1762, *viz.*

	£.
1. For naval ſervices in general, including ſeventy thouſand ſeamen, nineteen thouſand and ſixty-one marines, and one million toward paying off the navy debt	5,112,226
2. For the chapel at Goſport, one thouſand pounds, and the hoſpital at Plymouth ſix thouſand — — — — — —	7,000
3. For tranſports, and victualling them — — —	835,025
4. Ordnance for land ſervice, including laſt year's extras — —	642,916
5. Sixty-ſeven thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy-ſix land forces, including four thouſand and one invalids, one million ſix hundred and twenty-nine thouſand three hundred and twenty-one pounds eighteen ſhillings and ſeven pence; and eight hundred and ſeventy-three thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty pounds eighteen ſhillings and ſeven pence for forces in Plantations, Gibraltar, Africa, and the Eaſt Indies — — — — —	2,503,101
6. Four regiments on the Iriſh eſtabliſhment, now in North America, twenty-three thouſand two hundred and eighty-four pounds and ſix pence; and for an augmentation of nine thouſand three hundred and ſeventy men, one hundred and ſixty-three thouſand ſeven hundred and eleven pounds twelve ſhillings and ſix pence — — — — —	186,995
7. General and ſtaff officers, in Germany, &c. — — —	72,896
8. Embodied militia and Scots Highlanders, forty-four thouſand nine hundred and fifty-two pounds ten ſhillings and ten pence; and cloathing for embodied militia, ſixty thouſand ſeven hundred and ſix pounds four ſhillings and one penny	504,658
9. Cloathing and pay of unembodied militia, twenty thouſand pounds; and half pay land officers, thirty-four thouſand three hundred and eighty-three pounds —	54,383
10. Superannuated and reduced horſe-guards, two thouſand nine hundred and fifty-two pounds thirteen ſhillings and four pence; and half-pay officers widows, married before the year 1716, one thouſand eight hundred and thirty-eight pounds — — — — — —	4,790
11. Out-penſioners Chelſea Hoſpital — — — —	13,740
12. For thirty-nine thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-three men of Hanover, Wolfenbuttle, Saxe-Gotha, and Buckeburg, employed in Germany —	466,638
13. Five battalions in Germany, each of one hundred and one horſe, and five hundred foot — — — — —	25,504
14. For one thouſand four hundred and ſixty-four horſe and two thouſand three hundred and thirty foot, from the Duke of Brunſwick — —	68,008
15. For two thouſand one hundred and twenty horſe and nine thouſand nine hundred and ninety foot, from the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, with artillery, &c. — — — — — — —	268,360
16. For one thouſand five hundred and ſeventy-ſix horſe and eight thouſand eight hundred foot from Heſſe Caſſel — — — —	147,171
17. Toward aſſiſting his Majeſty to grant reaſonable ſuccours in money to the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel — — — —	50,000
Carried forward £.	10,963,411

18. Extra-

	£.
Brought forward	10,963,411
18. Extraordinaries of land forces to November 1761, over and above one million granted by Parliament	1,353,662
19. Forage, bread, &c. and extraordinaries of the combined army under Prince Ferdinand	1,000,000
20. Extraordinaries there, from twenty-fourth of November 1761, to December following	958,384
21. Extraordinaries of the war 1762, and to aſſiſt the King of Portugal	1,000,000
22. To diſcharge Exchequer Bills, charged on this year's aids	1,000,000
23. Ditto, for bills iſſued in 1761, for navy debts, &c.	1,500,000
24. Civil eſtabliſhment of Nova Scotia, five thouſand ſix hundred and eighty-four pounds one ſhilling and ten pence; and of Georgia, four thouſand fifty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings	9,741
25. A compenſation to certain provinces in North America, for levying, cloathing, and pay of troops raiſed there	133,333
26. To the Eaſt India Company, in lieu of a regiment there	20,000
27. Towards widening London Bridge, fifteen thouſand pounds; and a new bridge over the Tweed, four thouſand pounds	19,000
28. To the Foundling Hoſpital, for maintenance of children	41,752
29. For Annamaboo, and other forts in Africa	13,000
30. To make good to the Sinking Fund a malt duty deficiency	16,540
31. Ditto deficiency of annuity fund of thirty-firſt George II.	52,393
32. Ditto of annuity fund of firſt of George III.	103,906
33. Ditto of grants for the year 1761	112,613
34. To the Truſtees of the Britiſh Muſeum	2,000
35. For paving, &c. the ſtreets of Weſtminſter, and Middleſex out-pariſhes contiguous	5,000
36. For printing the Journals of the Houſe of Commons	1,500
Total £.	18,305,235

In all the preceding account we have rejected the odd ſhillings, pence, and farthings.

N. B. There was beſide, a ſum of two thouſand one hundred and fourteen pounds, granted to make good a penſion to the Right Honourable Mr. Onſlow, and a yearly penſion of three thouſand pounds was granted to him, for his own and his ſon's life, out of the Aggregate Fund, free of all taxes, fees, &c. whatever.

WAYS AND MEANS for the Year 1762, viz.

1. Land Tax, at four ſhillings in the pound	2,000,000	0	0
2. Malt Duty	750,000	0	0
3. By Exchequer Bills, to be current after March twenty-ſixth, 1763	1,500,000	0	0
Carried forward £.	4,250,000	0	0

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	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	4,250,000	0	0
*4. By nine million ſix hundred thouſand pounds capital annuities, on every eighty pounds paid in, at four per cent. for nineteen years, and then to be reduced to three per cent. with an addition of one per cent. per annum for ninety-eight years on every twenty pounds paid in	12,000,000	0	0
5. Out of the Sinking Fund — — —	1,009,217	2	8
6. Surplus repaid out of the civil liſt revenue of George II. —	115,000	0	0
7. Savings on ſums formerly granted for unembodied militia, which was paid for as embodied — — — —	170,000	0	0
8. Surplus of three pence per buſhel on malt — —	73,678	0	0
9. Vote of credit, to be charged on next year's aids — —	1,000,000	0	0
	£. 18,617,895	2	8

N. B. The ſurplus of ways and means is applicable to pay the deficiency of the land-tax and malt-duty of the year 1761.

* The fund for the above twelve millions of pounds charged collaterally on the ſinking fund, conſiſts of certain unappropriated ſurpluſſes of duties on ſpirituous liquors, an additional duty on ſpirituous liquors, and on houſes and windows, where the windows do not exceed fifteen to a houſe.

A new duty alſo was granted on certain law admiſſions, for anſwering the additional ſalaries to the judges.

By a ſtatute of the ſecond year of King George the Third, cap. vi. "For the more eaſy "victualling of his Majeſty's ſhips, tranſports, &c. in his ſervice," ſalted beef, pork, and butter, are permitted to be imported from Ireland duty free, and for none other purpoſe, for one year, to end on the twenty-fourth of December 1762.

By another ſtatute of the ſaid ſecond year, cap. xv. "For the better ſupplying the cities of "London and Weſtminſter with freſh fiſh; and to reduce the preſent exorbitant price there-"of; and to protect and encourage fiſhermen; any perſon whatever may buy at any market, "ſea-coaſt, port, or river, all ſorts of ſizeable fiſh; and may ſell the ſame in thoſe cities, "paying the cuſtomary dues, except in Covent-garden market.—The fiſh-carriages ſhall be "numbered, and entered in the hackney-coach office; and may travel on Sundays and holi-"days, and to be uſed for fiſh carriage ſolely.—No proprietor of ſuch fiſh ſhall break bulk, nor "ſell any fiſh, till brought to the reſpective markets, and there firſt expoſed publicly to ſale, "ſalmon and lobſters excepted.—Mackrell may, as before the making of this act, be ſold on "Sundays, either before or after divine ſervice.—Fiſh-mongers and others ſhall not buy any "of the ſaid fiſh, to be divided by lots or ſhares, in order to be retailed again, but what ſhall "be for his own ſale or uſe only, on pain of twenty pounds.—For preventing of engroſſing "of large quantities of fiſh, the quantities of the lots are hereby limited; for inſtance, freſh "ſalmon, ſturgeon, large cod, &c. by the ſingle fiſh; large haddocks not to exceed four in "one lot,—and ſo of other ſorts of fiſh.—Out of this act are excepted ſalt or dried fiſh, oyſ-"ters, carp, and tench."

A. D.
1762 This ſtatute, and its diſintereſted and expenſive execution, though it afterwards failed of ſucceſs, from the powerful, wealthy, and intereſted combination of the fiſh-mongers to oppoſe it, redounded greatly to the honour of the moſt worthy and noble Society for arts, manufactures, and commerce.

For preventing the fraudulent exportation of the current coins of Denmark, his Daniſh Majeſty, in the month of October laſt, 1762, directed the loan-bank, for current caſh-notes, to exchange their hundred rix-dollar notes for notes of fifty, ten, or one rix-dollar: and not to pay to any one perſon above one crown in ſpecie. The ſaid loan-bank's capital ſtock conſiſts of five hundred thouſand rix-dollars, each being of the value of about four ſhillings and ſixpence ſterling. Their notes are received even in payment of the royal revenue.—They lend out money on pledges, not exceeding one hundred rix-dollars, at an intereſt of four per cent.

The exportations from South Carolina, from December 23, 1761, to September 1, 1762, viz.

Rice	62,288	Barrels.
Indigo	249,000	lb. weight.
Caſk-ſtaves	157,880.	
Shingles	674,750.	
Corn	23,194	Buſhels.
Peas	3,980	Buſhels.
Pork	2,275	Barrels.
Butter	80	Kegs.
Deer-ſkins	331	Hogſheads.
Ditto, ditto	12	Caſks.
Ditto, ditto	215	Bundles.
Ditto, ditto	1,043	looſe.
Pitch	3,110	Barrels.
Tar	1,119	Barrels.
Tobacco	14	Hogſheads.
Roſin	19	Barrels.
Tanned leather	2,693	Hides.
Tallow	32	Barrels.
Fiſh	41	Ditto.
Timber, &c.	103,293	Feet.
Oranges	4	Barrels.
Soap	100	Boxes.
Potatoes	20	Buſhels.
Laths	3,500	
Turpentine	751	Barrels.
Beef	21	Ditto.
Bacon	1,648	lb. weight.
Candles of myrtle-wax	14	Boxes.
Oats	388	Buſhels.
Hoops	14,500	
Reeds	400	
Handſpikes	360	
Furs	1	Hogſhead.

Furs — — —	1 Bundle.
Ditto — — —	2 Barrels.
Pink-root — — —	1 Caſk.
Bees-wax — — —	6 Caſks.
Hams — — —	5 Barrels.

Thus this fine province continued to increaſe its exportations.

Preliminary Articles of Peace, between his Britannic Majeſty, on one Side, and the Moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Kings, on the other Side; ſigned on the Third of November, 1762, and ſince ratified by the three high contracting Parties, viz.

Article I. A ſuſpenſion of hoſtilities.

II. France renounces and guarantees to Great Britain all Nova Scotia or Acadia, and likewiſe Canada, and the Iſle of Cape Breton, and all other iſlands in the gulph and river of St. Lawrence.

III. The French ſhall have the liberty of fiſhing and drying on a part of the coaſts of the iſland of Newfoundland, as ſpecified in the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht; and the French may alſo fiſh in the gulph of St. Lawrence, ſo as they do not exerciſe the ſame but at the diſtance of three leagues from all the coaſts belonging to Great Britain, as well thoſe of the continent, as thoſe of the iſlands in the ſaid gulph.—And as to what relates to the fiſhery out of the ſaid gulph, the French ſhall exerciſe the ſame, but at the diſtance of fifteen leagues from the coaſts of the Iſle of Cape Breton.

IV. Great Britain cedes to France, to ſerve as a ſhelter for the French fiſhermen, the iſlands of St. Peter and of Miquelon; and his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty obliges himſelf, on his royal word, not to fortify the ſaid iſlands, nor to erect any other buildings thereon, but merely for the conveniency of the fiſhery; and to keep only a guard of fifty men for the police.

V. Dunkirk ſhall be put into the ſtate fixed by the laſt treaty of Aix la Chapelle, and by former treaties.

VI. The confines between the dominions of Great Britain and France on the continent of North America ſhall be irrevocably fixed, by a line drawn along the middle of the river Miſſiſippi, from its ſource, as far as the river Ibberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the middle of this river, and of the lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain, to the ſea; and to this purpoſe, the Moſt Chriſtian King cedes in full right, and guarantees to his Britannic Majeſty, the river and port of Mobile, and every thing that he poſſeſſes on the left ſide of the river Miſſiſippi, except the town of New Orleans, and the iſland on which it is ſituated, which ſhall remain to France; provided,—That the navigation of the river Miſſiſippi ſhall be equally free to the ſubjects of Great Britain and France, in its whole breadth and length, from its ſource to the ſea, and that part expreſsly which is between the ſaid iſland of New Orleans and the right bank of that river, as well as the paſſage both in and out of its mouth.—And the veſſels belonging to the ſubjects of either nation ſhall not be ſtopped, viſited, or ſubjected to the payment of any duty whatſoever. The ſtipulations in favour of the inhabitants of Canada, inſerted in the ſecond article, ſhall alſo take place with regard to the inhabitants of the countries ceded by this article: *i. e.* that the French in Canada may freely profeſs the Roman Catholic religion, as far as the laws of Great Britain permit: that they may enjoy their civil rights, retire when they pleaſe, and may diſpoſe of their eſtates to Britiſh ſubjects.

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VII. Britain ſhall reſtore to France the iſlands of Guadaloupe, Mariegalante, Deſirade, and Martinico, in the Weſt Indies, and of Belleiſle, on the coaſt of France, with their fortreſſes. Provided, that the term of eighteen months be granted to his Britannic Majeſty's ſubjects ſettled there and in other places hereby reſtored to France, to ſell their eſtates, recover their debts, and to tranſport themſelves and effects, without being reſtrained on account of their religion, or any other pretence, except for debts, or criminal proſecutions.

VIII. France cedes and guarantees to Great Britain, the iſlands of Grenada and the Grenadines, with the ſame ſtipulations in favour of their inhabitants, as are inſerted in the ſecond article for thoſe of Canada. And the partition of the iſlands called neutral is agreed and fixed, ſo that thoſe of St. Vincent, Dominico, and Tobago ſhall remain in full right to England; and that of St. Lucia ſhall be delivered to France in full right, the two crowns reciprocally guaranteeing to each other the partition ſo ſtipulated.

IX. Great Britain ſhall reſtore to France the iſland of Goree: and France cedes and guarantees Senegal to Britain.

X. In the Eaſt Indies, Great Britain reſtores to France the ſeveral comptoirs which that crown had on the coaſt of Coromandel and of Malabar, and in Bengal, in the condition they now are, on condition, that the moſt Chriſtian King renounces the acquiſitions which he has made on the coaſt of Coromandel ſince the commencement of hoſtilities between the two companies in the year 1749. And his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, on his ſide, ſhall reſtore all that he ſhall have conquered from Great Britain in the Eaſt Indies during the preſent war: and he alſo engages not to erect any fortifications, or to keep any troops, in Bengal.

XI. The iſland of Minorca and Fort St. Philip ſhall be reſtored to his Britannic Majeſty, in the ſame condition they were in when conquered by France.

XII. France ſhall reſtore all the countries belonging to the Electorate of Hanover, to the Landgravate of Heſſe, to the Duke of Brunſwic, and to the Count of La Lippe Buckebourg; and the fortreſſes ſhall be reſtored in the ſame condition as when conquered by France; and hoſtages ſhall be reſtored without any ranſom.

XIII. After the ratification of the preliminaries, France ſhall evacuate the fortreſſes of Cleves, Weſel, and Gueldres, and other countries belonging to the King of Pruſſia: and the Britiſh and French armies ſhall evacuate all the countries of Weſtphalia, Lower Saxony, Lower Rhine, Upper Rhine, &c. and in all Germany; and each ſhall retire into their own countries. And both crowns ſtipulate and promiſe, not to furniſh any ſuccour, of any kind, to their reſpective allies, who ſhall continue engaged in the preſent war in Germany.

XIV. The towns of Oſtend and Nieuport ſhall be evacuated by France, immediately after the ſignature of the preſent preliminaries.

XV. The deciſion of the prizes, made on the Spaniards by Britiſh ſubjects in time of peace, ſhall be referred to the courts of juſtice of the Admiralty of Great Britain, conformably to the rules eſtabliſhed among all nations; ſo that the validity of the ſaid prizes between the Britiſh and Spaniſh nations, ſhall be decided and judged according to the law of nations, and according to treaties, in the courts of juſtice of the nation who ſhall have made the capture.

XVI. His Britannic Majeſty ſhall cauſe all the fortifications to be demoliſhed which his ſubjects ſhall have erected in the Bay of Honduras, and other places of the territory of Spain, in that part of the world, four months after the ratification of the definitive treaty. And his Catholic Majeſty ſhall not, for the future, ſuffer the ſubjects of his Britannic Majeſty, or their workmen, to be diſturbed or moleſted, under any pretence whatſoever, in their occupation

tion of cutting, loading, and carrying away logwood: and, for this purpoſe, they may build, without hinderance, and occupy, without interruption, the houſes and magazines neceſſary for them, for their families, and for their effects: and his ſaid Catholic Majeſty aſſures to them, by this article, the entire enjoyment of what is above ſtipulated.

XVII. His Catholic Majeſty deſiſts from all pretenſions which he may have formed to the right of fiſhing about the iſland of Newfoundland.

XVIII. The King of Great Britain ſhall reſtore to Spain all that he has conquered in the iſland of Cuba, with the fortreſs of the Havannah: and that fortreſs, as well as all the other fortreſſes of the ſaid iſland, ſhall be reſtored in the ſame condition they were in when they were conquered by his Britannic Majeſty's arms.

XIX. In conſequence of the reſtitution ſtipulated in the preceding article, his Catholic Majeſty cedes and guarantees, in full right, to his Britannic Majeſty, all that Spain poſſeſſes in the continent of North America, to the eaſt or to the ſouth-eaſt of the river Miſſiſippi. And his Britannic Majeſty agrees to grant to the inhabitants of this country, above ceded, the liberty of the Catholic religion: he will, in conſequence, give the moſt exact and moſt effectual orders, that his new Roman Catholic ſubjects may profeſs the worſhip of their religion, according to the rites of the Roman Church, as far as the laws of Great Britain permit. His Britannic Majeſty further agrees, that the Spaniſh inhabitants, &c. may retire, in all ſafety and freedom, wherever they pleaſe; and may ſell their eſtates, provided it be to his Britannic Majeſty's ſubjects, and tranſport their effects as well as their perſons, without being reſtrained in their emigration under any pretence whatſoever, except debts or criminal proſecutions. The term limited for this emigration being fixed to the ſpace of eighteen months, to be computed from the day of the ratification of the definitive treaty. And his Catholic Majeſty ſhall have power to cauſe all the effects that belong to him, either artillery or others, to be carried away.

XX. The King of Portugal, his Britannic Majeſty's ally, is expreſsly included in the preſent preliminary articles. And their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Majeſties engage to reeſtabliſh the ancient peace and friendſhip between them and his moſt Faithful Majeſty: and they promiſe,

Firſt, That there ſhall be a total ceſſation of hoſtilities between the crowns of Spain and Portugal, and between the Spaniſh and French troops, on the one ſide, and the Portugueſe troops, and thoſe of their allies, on the other, immediately after the ratification of theſe preliminaries: and that there ſhall be a like ceſſation of hoſtilities between the reſpective forces of the moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Kings, on the one part, and thoſe of the moſt Faithful King, on the other, in all other parts of the world, as well by ſea as land: which ceſſation ſhall be fixed on the ſame epochs, and under the ſame conditions as that between Great Britain, France, and Spain; and ſhall continue till the concluſion of the definitive treaty between Great Britain, France, Spain, and Portugal.

Secondly, That all his moſt Faithful Majeſty's fortreſſes and countries in Europe, which ſhall have been conquered by the Spaniſh and French armies, ſhall be reſtored, in the ſame condition they were in when they were conquered. And that, with regard to the Portugueſe colonies in America, or elſewhere, if any change ſhall have happened in them, all things ſhall be put again on the ſame footing they were before the preſent war.

And the moſt Faithful King ſhall be invited to accede to the preſent preliminary articles as ſoon as ſhall be poſſible.

1762 XXI. All the countries and territories which may have been conquered, in any part of the world whatſoever, by the arms of their Britannic and moſt Faithful Majeſties, as well as by thoſe of their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Majeſties, which are not included in the preſent articles, either under the titles of ceſſion, or under the title of reſtitutions, ſhall be reſtored without difficulty, and without requiring compenſations.

XXII. It is agreed, That the Britiſh and French troops ſhall proceed, immediately after the ratification of the preliminaries, to the evacuation of the countries which they occupy in the empire, or elſewhere, conformably to the twelfth and thirteenth articles.

The iſland of Belleiſle ſhall be evacuated ſix weeks after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or ſooner, if it can be done.

Guadaloupe, Deſirade, Mariegalante, Martinico, and St. Lucia, three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or ſooner. if it can be done.

Great Britain ſhall likewiſe, at the end of three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or ſooner, if it can be done, enter into poſſeſſion of the river and of the port of Mobile, and of all that is to form the limits of the territory of Great Britain, on the ſide of the river Miſſiſippi, as they are ſpecified in the ſixth article.

The iſland of Goree ſhall be evacuated by Great Britain three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty; and the iſland of Minorca by France at the ſame epochs, or ſooner, if it can be done. And, according to the conditions of the fourth article, France ſhall enter into poſſeſſion of the iſlands of St. Peter and of Miquelon at the end of three months.

The comptoirs in the Eaſt Indies ſhall be reſtored ſix months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or ſooner, if it can be done.

The iſland of Cuba, with the fortreſs of the Havanna, ſhall be reſtored three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or ſooner, if it can be done: and at the ſame time Great Britain ſhall enter into poſſeſſion of the country ceded by Spain, according to the nineteenth article.

All the fortreſſes and countries of his moſt Faithful Majeſty in Europe ſhall be reſtored immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty: and the Portugueſe colonies which may have been conquered, ſhall be reſtored, in the ſpace of three months in the Weſt Indies, and of ſix months in the Eaſt Indies, after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or ſooner, if it can be done. In conſequence whereof the neceſſary orders ſhall be ſent by each of the high contracting parties, with reciprocal paſſports for the ſhips which ſhall carry them, immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty.

XXIII. All the treaties, of what nature ſoever, which exiſted before the preſent war, as well between their Britannic and moſt Chriſtian Majeſties, as between their Britannic and Catholic Majeſties, as alſo between any of the above-named powers and his moſt Faithful Majeſty, ſhall be, as they are in effect, renewed and confirmed, in all their points, which are not derogated from by the preſent preliminary articles, notwithſtanding whatever may have been ſtipulated to the contrary by any of the high contracting powers. And all the ſaid parties declare, that they will not ſuffer any privilege, favour, or indulgence, to ſubſiſt, contrary to the treaties above-confirmed.

XXIV. The priſoners made reſpectively by the arms of their Britannic, moſt Chriſtian, Catholic, and moſt Faithful Majeſties, by land and by ſea, ſhall be reſtored reciprocally, and *bona fide*, after the ratification of the definitive treaty, without ranſom, paying the debts

A. D. 1762 debts they have contracted, during their captivity. And each crown ſhall reſpectively pay the advances which ſhall have been made for the ſubſiſtance and maintenance of their priſoners, by the ſovereign of the country where they ſhall have been detained, according to the receipts and atteſted accounts, and other authentic titles which ſhall be furniſhed on each ſide.

XXV. In order to prevent all cauſes of complaints and diſputes which may ariſe, on account of ſhips, merchandizes, and other effects, which may be taken at ſea, it is reciprocally agreed, that the ſhips, merchandizes, and effects, which may be taken in the Channel, and in the North Seas after the ſpace of twelve days, to be computed from the ratification of the preſent preliminary articles, ſhall be reciprocally reſtored on each ſide.

That the term ſhall be ſix weeks for the prizes taken, from the Channel, the Britiſh Seas, and the North Seas, as far as the Canary Iſlands incluſively, either in the Ocean, or in the Mediterranean.

Three months from the ſaid Canary Iſlands as far as the Equinoctial Line, or Equator.

Laſtly, Six months beyond the ſaid Equinoctial Line, or Equator, and in all other parts of the world, without any exception, or other more particular deſcription of time and place.

XXVI. The ratifications of the preſent preliminary articles ſhall be expedited in good and due form, and exchanged in the ſpace of one month, or ſooner, if it can be done, to be computed from the day of the ſignature of the preſent articles.

In witneſs whereof, we, the under-written Miniſters Plenipotentiaries of his Britannic Majeſty, of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and of his Catholic Majeſty, in virtue of our reſpective full powers, have ſigned the preſent preliminary articles; and have cauſed the ſeal of our arms to be put thereto.

Done at Fontainbleau, the third day of November, 1762.

Bedford, C. P. S. (L. S.)
Choiseul, Duc de Praslin. (L. S.)
El Marq. de Grimaldi. (L. S.)

Declaration, ſigned at Fontainbleau, the third of November, 1762, by the French plenipotentiary, relating to the thirteenth article of the preliminaries. His moſt Chriſtian Majeſty declares, that, in agreeing to the thirteenth article of the preliminary, ſigned this day, he does not mean to renounce the right of acquitting his debts to his allies; and that the remittances, which may be made on his part, in order to acquit the arrears that may be due on the ſubſidies of preceding years, are not to be conſidered as an infraction of the ſaid article.

In witneſs whereof, I, the under-written Miniſter Plenipotentiary of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, have ſigned the preſent declaration; and have cauſed the ſeal of my arms to be put thereto.

Done at Fontainbleau, the eighth day of November, 1762.

Choiseul, Duc de Praslin. (L. S.)

Theſe articles were ratified the twenty-ſecond day of November, 1762.

Extract from the reſpective humble addreſſes of thanks of both Houſes of Parliament to his Britannic Majeſty, for his graciouſly communicating to them the ſaid preliminary articles, viz.

I. The Houſe of Lords, in returning his Majeſty their thanks for the important communication graciouſly made to them of the ſaid preliminary articles, thus expreſs themſelves, on

the

A. D. 1762 the tenth of December. “The great object of the war ſo fully anſwered—a vaſt extent of empire added to the Britiſh crown—new ſources opened for the trade and manufactures of this nation—and ſtability and duration inſured, under the bleſſing of Providence, to theſe great and national advantages,” &c.

II. The Houſe of Commons, on the thirteenth of that month, return his Majeſty their moſt humble and hearty thanks, for his moſt gracious condeſcenſion, in ordering the ſaid preliminary articles of peace to be laid before them. They thus expreſs themſelves, viz. “We aſſure your Majeſty, that we have conſidered them with our beſt attention: and, although to make peace and war be your Majeſty's juſt and undoubted prerogative; yet, knowing how agreeable it muſt be to your royal mind, to be informed of the grateful ſenſe your people entertain of the juſtice and wiſdom of your meaſures, and of your unwearied attention to their welfare; your faithful Commons are impatient to expreſs their approbation of the advantageous terms upon which your Majeſty hath concluded preliminary articles of peace; and to lay before your Majeſty the hearty applauſe of a faithful, affectionate, and thankful people. The ſucceſſes with which Divine Providence hath bleſſed your arms,—hath procured ſuch ſolid, and, in all human probability, ſuch permanent advantages for this nation, that we are no leſs ſenſibly affected with that humane diſpoſition which induced your Majeſty to put an end to a long, bloody, and expenſive, though glorious and ſucceſsful war. We are convinced, that poſterity, from their own experience, will hereafter agree with us in eſteeming that peace to be no leſs honourable than profitable, by which there will be ceded to Great Britain ſuch an addition of territory, attended with ſo great an extenſion of our commerce.”

THE END OF THE ORIGINAL PART OF THE HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL WORK BY MR. ANDERSON.

☞ *The Reader is referred for the* CONTINUATION, *from this period, to the fourth volume.*

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX:

Comprehending certain Matters relative to the foregoing Work, which, for the moſt Part, could not properly be brought into a Chronological Method or Order: as,

I. That excellent ſmall Treatiſe which, in our PREFACE, we promiſed to exhibit in this APPENDIX, as being long ſince out of Print, and become ſomewhat ſcarce; entitled, "OBSERVATIONS concerning the DOMINION and SOVEREIGNTY of the SEAS; being an "Abſtract of the Marine Affairs of ENGLAND."—*By Sir* PHILIP MEDOWS, *Knight.*

THE AUTHOR's ADDRESS.

THE dominion of the ſea, as it is moſt apt to be made the fair colour, and ſpecious pretence to a war betwixt England and Holland, when the real cauſes of ſuch war are hidden and remote; ſo nothing will ſo effectually preſerve a laſting union between them, by hindering the root of diſcord from growing again, as a true knowledge and right underſtanding of that matter. About which there are many traditional miſtakes and popular errors, too current among us, and ſuch as are not of a ſimple and innocent nature, but very dangerous, and of evil conſequence. The conſideration whereof gave the firſt occaſion to the following Diſcourſe, which was compoſed ſeveral years ſince, was read and preſented to his late Majeſty King Charles the Second, and well accepted by him; and has ſince remained a manuſcript in the hands of ſeveral perſons of quality. And though it might receive a new turn and air more accommodate to the preſent ſtate of things; and though the time when it was written, the perſon for whom, and the niceneſs of the ſubject itſelf, obliged the author, to more of caution and reſerve than perhaps would now be needful, yet he was not willing to make any alterations in it, chuſing rather to ſpeak the language of truth than of times; for what was once true is always ſo, though not always equally fit to be made public. But ſurely now, if ever, it is ſeaſonable to remove all obſtacles and impediments out of the way of a good underſtanding between the two nations, when their moſt intimate union and conjunction is not only, as at other times, highly expedient, but abſolutely neceſſary.

PREFACE;

SHEWING THE AUTHOR's DESIGN.

THE following Diſcourſe may poſſibly, upon a ſlight and ſuperficial view, ſeem to have ſome tendency towards the diminution of the rights of England, and conſequently the enlargement of thoſe of other governments; but upon a ſerious and deliberate peruſal, there will not appear any juſt ground for ſuch imputation. It is, doubtleſs, very commendable in a ſubject, if he can, with ſound judgment and convincing reaſon, to advance the pretenſions of his Sovereign amongſt foreign nations. If it be the part of a good judge, *ampliare curiam*, it is much more of a good ſubject, *ampliare coronam*: for we all ſhine in the glory of the crown that is over us, and even private perſons have ſomething of luſtre reflected on them, from the honour and grandeur of the monarchy under which they live. Upon which account, Mr. Selden has excellently well deſerved of the public, by heightening the ſea-ſovereignty of the crown of England, in his learned book entitled, *Mare Clauſum*; a treatiſe ſo comprehenſive of what can be ſaid on that argument, that he who ſhould now write of the ſame, would certainly incur the old cenſure of writing an Iliad after Homer.

But if all the claims and pretenſions of the crown of England, ſupported by the authorities and allegations produced in that book, ſhall be vouched as the proper meaſure and ſtandard of right and wrong betwixt us and other nations; if the controverting thereof by them, ſhall be eſteemed by us as an invaſion and uſurpation, and conſequently the juſt cauſe and foundation of a war; if what is well written muſt be fought for too, not being to be gained but by a longer tool than a pen, the King of England will unavoidably be caſt upon this hard dilemma, either of being involved in endleſs and dangerous quarrels with all his neighbours abroad, or of having his honour and reputation proſtituted at home, as tamely ſuffering the beſt jewels of his crown to be raviſhed from it, and the regalities thereof, tranſmitted to him from his moſt noble progenitors, to be uſurped by foreigners. Nor does the miſchief ceaſe here; for, in caſe he ſhould at any time enter into a war, for the more vigorous aſſerting and maintaining thoſe pretenſions, and they not be included in the terms and conditions of the following peace, the inference will be this—That he was ſo far worſted in the war, as to be conſtrained to buy a peace, if not by a total abandoning of them, yet at leaſt by a temporary receſſion from thoſe pretenſions.

Let me add one conſideration more; if a war betwixt England and any other kingdom or ſtate, be grounded and ſtated upon a ſea-dominion, by help of this advantage, an enemy will gain the weather-gage of us, and derive from it a conſiderable benefit to himſelf; *hoc Ithacus velit.*—A Dutchman will deſire no better: for, by this means, we ſhall diſoblige and diſaffect all our neighbours to our cauſe and quarrel, at ſuch a time when we moſt need their friendſhip and aſſiſtance. This will awaken fears and jealouſies, and ſtrongly alarm them to an early ſecuring of their own navigation and commerce, againſt thoſe who would impropriate the ſeas. They will not ſo much regard the juſtice of our cauſe, as the conſequences of our ſucceſs, and will be ſure to range themſelves with heart or hand, or both, as occaſion ſhall require, on that ſide to which they ſhall be invited by a common and complicate intereſt: it will not be a war betwixt this Prince and that, betwixt Holland and England,

England, but betwixt the continent and an iſland, and the queſtion will be briefly this—Whether the iſland ſhall have the ſea to herſelf, or whether the continent ſhall have ſhare with her?—As this is conſonant and agreeable to reaſon, to ſuppoſe that it will be ſo, ſo it is verified by experience, that in fact it has been ſo. We need look back no further than the year 1665: England was then in open war with Holland, and, as previous thereto, the Parliament granted a royal aid, the end whereof is publicly declared in the preamble of the act, viz. "To equip, and ſet out to ſea, a royal "navy, for the preſervation of his Majeſty's ancient and undoubted ſovereignty and dominion in "the ſeas." This was exactly calculated for the meridian of England; it ſerved to inſpire our captains and officers with honour, to animate our ſeamen with courage, to diſpoſe the whole body of the people, with chearfulneſs and unanimity, to undergo ſo mighty a ſupply, anſwerable to the greatneſs of the undertaking. But it ſerved not ſo good effects beyond-ſea, as ſoon appeared; for the balance of ſucceſs had no ſooner inclined to England, by that ſignal victory obtained under the happy conduct of his then Royal Highneſs, over the Dutch fleet, commanded by Lieutenant Admiral Opdam, but France ſtood over to Holland, Denmark was following, and had the war continued, and the ſeries of ſucceſs not been interrupted by the fatalities of the plague, fire, and other accidents, by occaſion whereof a peace intervened, there had at that time been as formidable a confederacy and conjunction formed againſt England, as that at Cambray againſt Venice.

To remedy theſe inconveniencies, and obviate thoſe of a ſimilar nature, I thought it uſeful in the following Diſcourſe, carefully to diſtinguiſh betwixt the queſtion of *right*, and the queſtion of *fact*; betwixt the pretenſions of the crown of England, and the poſſeſſions of it; betwixt what it has continually claimed and demanded as an ancient right, and what it has been actually ſeized of, by a long, peaceable, and uninterrupted enjoyment, which implies a conſent and acknowledgement on the part of other nations. The latter of theſe is the true touchſtone of wrong and injury; for what has been anciently claimed, may have been as anciently denied, and ſo remain *lis pendens*, a queſtion undecided: but what has been peaceably enjoyed, and thereby paſſed into an acknowledged right, afterwards to detain or controvert, is a manifeſt injury and uſurpation. And by this we ſhall eaſily diſcern, whether the crown of England maintains its ground, or whether it has loſt any thing of what it formerly had, by new encroachments and diſſeiſins, ſuch as may furniſh matter for a juſt reſentment and vindication. In the mean time, the pretenſions of the crown ſtand as they did; what they were, that they now are, no diminution of them, no derogation from them. It is courage in a nation ſtrenuouſly to maintain their own, and it is juſtice rightly to diſtinguiſh their own; and the beſt temper of government is, neither to do a wrong, nor take it.

I thought it needful alſo to examine the accuſtomed ſalutation at ſea, by the flag and topſail, and to endeavour to clear the true ſignificancy and import of it; and the rather, becauſe it has been the occaſion of ſpilling much blood in Europe within theſe forty years laſt paſt, and may be the effuſion of more, if a timely remedy be not applied to ſo growing an evil, which is almoſt become a common make-bate betwixt the European nations. And all this partly by overſtraining a fine thread, and laying greater weight upon it than it will bear; but chiefly for want of a certain and determinate regulation; for whilſt ſea-captains are, by the generality of their inſtructions, referred only to former uſe and cuſtom, and what that is, not diſtinctly known, many irregularities and indiſcretions enſue, not unlike to thoſe of ſome gallants at land, who think it a point of honour to quarrel for the way, or juſtle for the wall, with all they meet; but with this difference, theſe do it only to the endangering their own perſons, but the others to the engaging their maſters many times in unneceſſary feuds and diſputes.

This is the mark at which the following diſcourſe is levelled, and by theſe meaſures it has been guided. And the whole deſign of it tends to this, to prevent needleſs quarrels, and ſuch as are ſtated to diſadvantage abroad, and to juſtify our King's reputation againſt cenſure and reflection at home. That whilſt he preſerves the public peace, his honour may not be impeached, nor yet his honour, (of which he has ſo quick a ſenſe) be made uſe of through miſtaken appearances to imbroil his peace; but be left free to ſteer an even courſe betwixt the tender regards of the one, and the prudential conſiderations of the other. In order to which deſign, it was neceſſary for me to remove ſome obſtacles and impediments, as I found them in my way. To clear the true notion of dominion and ſovereignty in all the chief branches and dependencies of it. To trace matters of fact through the national treaties made betwixt our Kings and other Princes. To vindicate ſome paſſages in our books and rolls from miſtakes and miſapplications. And all this without any vanity of refuting Mr. Selden, who, if he has extended the rights of the crown of England to the wrong of other Princes, *viderint ipſi*, let them look to it, whoſe concern it is; but merely in proſecution of the deſign of a Diſcourſe, which, beſides that it aſſerts the honour of our King, by ſhewing in fact, as to ſea-matters, how he maintains whatever his anceſtors enjoyed, may, as is humbly conceived, be further ſerviceable for theſe two ends.

Firſt, To put a ſtop to ſome popular errors, which prevail to the great inconvenience of the King, by continually prompting and expoſing him, upon pretended points of honour, to a perpetual ſtriſe with all his neighbours, for things not ſafe to be inſiſted on, never enjoyed, nor ever likely to be obtained.

Secondly, To pacify and allay thoſe jealouſies, which diſpoſe foreign princes upon all occaſions to enter into confederacies prejudicial to the intereſts of England: for, as it has been the policy of France, in this laſt age, to load Spain with an imputation of affecting an univerſal monarchy, ſo it is the practice of Holland, to charge England with an affectation of a ſea monarchy, to the belief of which we too unwarily contribute; and under this covert the Dutch advance their own deſigns, as the French have done theirs under the former.

As to the Method of this Treatiſe, it is divided into theſe four general heads:

I. What is meant by the dominion and ſovereignty of the ſeas, and what the true notion or idea of it is.

II. What things are incident to this dominion, and inſeparably follow it.

III. What the ſalutation at ſea by the flag and topſail ſignifies, and whether it has any relation to the dominion of it.

IV. The whole matter of fact betwixt the crown of England, and foreign princes and ſtates, in the ſeveral incidents of ſea dominion, is diſtinctly examined, and impartially reported.

Theſe general heads contain ſeveral ſubdiviſions, concerning the *Quatuor Maria*.—The Laws of Oleron.—The Roll in the Tower *De Superioritate Maris*.—The Fiſhery licenſed and limited, &c.

Obſervations concerning the Dominion and Sovereignty of the Seas, &c.

IT has been learnedly argued on both ſides, whether there be any juſt dominion or property in any ſea : for, in the primitive and natural ſtate of things, antecedent to human fact and conſent, the whole earth was common and undivided to all mankind : but then, as it was common, ſo it was without culture, men living upon the ſpontaneous productions of it, in an eaſy, and innocent, but rude and ſimple manner. Their dwellings were tents ; their drink, water ; their bread, roots and nuts ; their clothing, the bark of trees, or ſkins of beaſts. Wherefore, to better the condition of human life, by the encouragement of ingenious arts and induſtry, conſent, either expreſs or tacit, introduced occupancy and property, that every man might enjoy to himſelf as a reward, the benefit of his own ſkill and labour. Then houſes were built, fields ſown with corn, vineyards planted, and the manner of living heightened by progreſſive ſteps and gradations, from the plain ſtate of ſimple neceſſity, to a degree of convenience ; from convenience to delight ; from delight to luxury. But foraſmuch, as the wide ſea is not capable of cultivation or improvement, by art or induſtry, it may therefore be reaſonably ſuppoſed, never to have been impropriated by conſent, but left to its primitive and natural communion.

If it be objected, that various people and nations have been lords of ſeveral ſeas ; as the Athenians, Carthaginians, Rhodians, and Romans : to that will be replied, that this was force and empire, without property ; an uſurpation, not a right ; and that an armed conqueror, by the ſame rule, that he diſpoſſeſſes what is proper, may impropriate what is common ; only with this difference, that it it is extenſively more unjuſt to debar many from their common right, than to diſſeize a ſingle perſon of his private inheritance.

I ſhall not enter upon the merits of the cauſe, as not being to my purpoſe, but as to the fore-mentioned argument, how plauſible ſoever, it concludes fallaciouſly ; as if that, which is but *cauſa una*, one cauſe, were *cauſa unica*, the only cauſe ; whereas there may be other reaſons and conſiderations, beſides that of encouraging induſtry, why communion was changed into property, and thoſe equally extendible to ſea as well as land. Poſſibly the conſent of ſome nations may diveſt themſelves of a joint right, and inveſt it in one, in order to a public benefit. And this is the beſt part of that title, which the Venetian has to the Gulph ; which being a particular and remarkable caſe, it will not be amiſs briefly to touch upon it, in the following paragraph.

The Ottoman power extending itſelf into Europe, to the ſubverſion of the eaſtern empire, conquering all Greece, with Macedon and Epirus, and penetrating to the very banks of the Gulph, almoſt within ſight of Italy ; the Italian, and other neighbouring Princes, to interpoſe the beſt ſkreen they could, betwixt themſelves and the near approaching danger, did, by a concurring intereſt, impatronize the Venetian in the Gulph, who, by reaſon of their potency in ſhipping, and the immediate concern of their own imminent peril, were the moſt proper ſtate to be made the bulwark of Chriſtendom at ſea. Thus the Pope, by the ceremony of a ring, wedded their Duke every year to the Adriatic. And in the General Council of Lyons, in the preſence of the Ambaſſadors of ſeveral Princes, upon complaint made againſt the Venetians, for laying impoſitions upon all ſhips ſailing within the Gulph, judgment was given in favour of the republic, upon conſideration of their guarding that ſea againſt the courſes of the pirates and Saracens. And the neighbouring Princes would not ſo much as ſend a galley without aſking leave of the Senate ; which reſpect was ſo providently managed by that wiſe council, the better to aſſert their ſovereignty, that ſometimes they would give leave, under ſome reſtrictions and conditions, as in the caſe of the ſiſter of Uladiſlaus King of Naples; ſometimes they denied leave, as in the caſe of Mary, ſiſter of Philip King of Spain, in the year 1630, whom the Senate would not permit to be tranſported from Naples to Trieſte, in the galleys of Spain, but in thoſe only of the republic. But it is to be conſidered alſo, that the Gulph of Venice is not a wide ſea or ocean, nor a ſtreight or narrow ſea, called in Latin *Fretum*, but a *Sinus*, a bay or gulph cloſed at one end; in the bottom whereof the city of Venice is ſituate, upon ſeveral iſles or inſulets. The ſeas of England are of a different nature and condition, they are open both above and below, and they are the mid-way paſſage betwixt all the northern and ſouthern nations. The wares and merchandiſes of Muſcovy, Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Germany, and the Netherlands, are conveyed by ſhipping to France, Spain, Italy, the Levant, &c. and ſo back again from the ſouth to the north, through the north-eaſt ſea betwixt England and Germany, and the weſtern channel betwixt England and France, which ſhews, of what influence and import this dominion, on the part of England, is to the reſt of the world.

CHAP. I.

What is meant by the Dominion and Sovereignty of the Seas, and what the true Notion or Idea of it is.

BEFORE I proceed, it will be neceſſary, firſt, to explain the terms, what is meant by *Dominion*, what by *Sovereignty*, and what by the *Seas*; leſt we loſe things in words, and take up with names, inſtead of realities. By dominion is to be underſtood property, (for ſo is that word dominion always taken in a legal ſenſe) or a right of poſſeſſing and uſing any thing as one's own, and of excluding all others from a promiſcuous and equal uſe thereof. That is mine, which is ſo mine, as it is not another's, *eodem modo*, in the ſame manner as it is mine: and this property is twofold, either public or private, for property is not oppoſed to public but to common. Public property excludes communion amongſt nations; private property, communion amongſt perſons. For, as particular manors and tenements, divided by their reſpective boundaries, are the private property of particular perſons, which they poſſeſs privatively of other perſons: ſo countries and territories, like greater manors, divided each from the other by limits and borders, are the public properties of nations, which they poſſeſs excluſively one of another. The whole territory of England is the public property of the Engliſh nation, and this property excludes aliens, or all born out of the King of England's liegance, from taking real inheritances, or holding lands and tenements any where in England. The ſupreme rule and juriſdiction in and over this territory, is that which we call ſovereignty, and is the public property of the King, in right of his crown of England. He is ſole lord of this great manor, and all the lands in England are holden, either mediately or immediately, of him. And he is the head and chief ruler, he bears within him the perſon of the whole nation, and thus all England is his territorial property. And the royal domains and poſſeſſions, annexed to the crown, as the public revenue thereof, and as diſtinct from the private poſſeſſions of particular perſons, are his patrimonial property. He has them in his public and politic capacity, as King, not in his private and natural, as an individual perſon: for Kings, as well as ſubjects, may have poſſeſſions

poſſeſſions in a private right, as the King of Egypt, who bought the lands of his ſubjects for corn, he had not thoſe lands in right of his crown, as King, for he was King before he had them.

I have done with thoſe two terms, Dominion, and Sovereignty; I paſs to the third, and that is, the Sea or Seas. Whereby ſea is not to be underſtood, ſuch as a collective body of waters, ſingly and ſolely as waters; for the moveable inconſtant waters, whether of ſea or river, barely as ſuch, are not a capable ſubject of property; but as waters contained within a fixed and certain boundary, and ſupported by a ſtanding bottom. In the firſt ſenſe, no man goes twice into the ſame river; in the ſecond, a river is the ſame in a ſucceſſion of ages. And in this latter ſenſe, the ſea, as it is a ſolid *alveus*, or receptacle of waters, contained within a certain boundary, is as truly and as properly territory as the land, It is *territorium à terra*, from the ſtanding bottom of earth, by which the waters of it are ſupported, and from the unmoveable ſhores of earth, within which thoſe waters are contained.

Having ſufficiently explained the terms, if one ſhould aſk me, what is meant by the dominion and ſovereignty of the Britiſh ſeas, which the Kings of England are ſaid to have continually claimed, in right of their crown of England? I would anſwer, by dominion is meant the public property of thoſe ſeas, as part of the territory of their realm of England, and conſequently all other princes and people excluded, not from all, but from an equal uſe of them. By ſovereignty is meant, that ſole ſupreme rule and juriſdiction, which the Kings of England, ſucceſſively, have over the whole realm of England, of which thoſe ſeas are a part. If he ſhould further aſk me, how does this right in the crown of England appear, and by what proofs is it evidenced? I would refer him to Mr. Selden, whoſe proofs and arguments, whether they come up to the height of ſuch a dominion as I have here deſcribed, which they ought to do, or elſe will fall ſhort of the mark, is not for me to ſay; I leave that to the judgment of his reader, wiſhing they were ſo convincing and demonſtrative, that all other nations, as well as our own, would reſt ſatisfied therewith. But if he aſks me of matter of fact, whether the Kings of England have, for any long time, been in the actual and peaceable poſſeſſion of ſuch dominion, as a right acknowledged by the expreſs or implied conſent of other nations? This I ſhall examine by and by.

But whereas I hinted before, that the dominion of the crown of England in the Britiſh ſeas, did not exclude other princes and ſtates from all uſe, but from an equal uſe of thoſe ſeas, this needs a little explication. In order to which it is to be conſidered, that as all property firſt began by human fact and conſent, antecedent to which was communion; ſo in this conſent was implied a reſervation and benign exception of ſuch uſe, as might be of great benefit to others, without any conſiderable damage to the proprietor: a river, as a fiſhery, is a private dominion, no man may fiſh there, without the owner's leave, becauſe it would be a diminution of his profit; if navigable, as a way, it is public to all the ſubjects of that Prince who is lord of the territory; as it is a running water, it is common to man and beaſt to drink of it, and waſh with it. A field is a private property, but the market-path over it is public, and when it was firſt made a property, it was with reſervation of a path. For fields were not diſtinguiſhed by metes and bounds to their reſpective owners, with deſign to confine every man to his own home, but with exception of liberty to paſs and re-paſs in a harmleſs manner, over each others properties in purſuance of their lawful occaſions. The ſea, ſay we, is the public property of the crown of England, but yet, as it is a way, it is common to the peaceable traders of all nations. A path over a field is of ſome damage to the ſoil; though compenſated with a greater utility; but a way over the ſea is of no damage to the water; and the ſea, being a fluid body, is all path where a ſhip can ſail, and a common highway from one nation to another. And this is ſo far from being a damage to any, that it is highly beneficial to all: for as there is no man ſo ſelfſufficient, as not to need the continual help of another, ſo neither is there any country which does not, at ſome time or other, need the growth and productions of another.

Well then, ſince it is the nature of property in general, ſo to make a thing mine, as it is not another's, *eodem modo*, in the ſame manner as it is mine; and the dominion of the ſea in one prince does not exclude another from all uſe of it; it may not be unfitly demanded, what are thoſe proper uſes which are ſo peculiarly reſerved to the crown of England, in right of ſuch ſuppoſed dominion, as that all other nations are excluded from them? And this will lead me to the ſecond general head which I propoſed, viz.

CHAP. II.

What Things are incident to the Dominion of the Sea, and inſeparably follow it.

I ANSWER, theſe three things:

I. A right of excluding all foreign ſhips of war from paſſing upon any of the ſeas of England, without ſpecial licence for that purpoſe firſt obtained.

II. The ſole marine juriſdiction within thoſe ſeas.

III. An appropriate fiſhery.

Firſt, All foreigners are excluded by virtue of ſuch dominion from a general liberty, without firſt aſking and obtaining ſpecial licence, of putting out upon the Britiſh ſeas, ſhips fitted and equipped for war, when and in what number they pleaſe. The reaſon is plain, becauſe it is the territory of another Prince; and to enter it, without leave, with an armed force, and in ſuch numbers, as may juſtly occaſion fear and ſuſpicion of danger, is a public hoſtility. The Perſians were reſtrained by pact and league made with the Athenians, from entering with armed veſſels within the Cyanean and Chelidonian iſlands; but had the Perſians acknowledged the territorial property of thoſe ſeas to have been in the people of Athens, there had been no need of ſuch pact, for in the reaſon of the thing itſelf, abſtracted from covenant, it had been as much as hoſtility to have entered thoſe ſeas with a fleet of war, as to have landed an army upon Attica; for both were equally the Athenian territory.

Secondly, From the juridical cogniſance of all cauſes, civil and criminal, for and concerning all matters and things done and committed in and upon thoſe ſeas, the perſons, whom thoſe cauſes concern, there abiding. The reaſon is, becauſe juriſdiction is an eſſential and inſeparable part of the ſovereignty, which a prince has within his own territory. All foreigners, whilſt in it, owe him a local obedience, and are triable by his laws, and before his judicatories only as the ſole ſupreme judge of the place. And for any to appeal from him, is to ſet a ſuperior over him, and to exerciſe juriſdiction within his territory, without an authority derived from him, is to king it in another's kingdom, to ſet up co-ordinate ſupremes within one realm in matters of the ſame civil cogniſance. Which is as much a contradiction, as to affirm many infinites, for as the infinity of one makes all others finite, ſo the ſupremacy of one makes all others ſubordinate.

Thirdly, From a right of fiſhing within thoſe ſeas, without ſpecial licence firſt obtained from the lord of the ſeignory, and under ſuch conditions and conſiderations as he ſhall think fit. The reaſon is, becauſe this is the patrimonial property of his crown, and the fiſhery is in a manner all the profit that his great ſea-territory yields him. The dominion of the ſea, without an appropriate fiſhing, is as if a vineyard ſhould be a property, but the grapes common. Or like an eſtate or poſſeſſion of land, veſted in one, to the uſe of another; and ſuch we had many here in England, till a good ſtatute (twenty-ſeventh Henry VIII. cap. x.) executed the poſſeſſion to the uſe, and ſo conjoined what ought not to have been divided. Nor can it be alleged, that a promiſcuous fiſhing in the ſea is of no damage to the proprietor, for admitting the multitude of fiſh to be ſo great as to ſuffice all mens uſe, which is not always true, yet this will abate the price of the market for ſale, nor can the fiſhery be farmed out, if occaſion be, at ſo good advantage. For ſo we read, that the Eaſtern Emperor let out to farm the fiſhing in the Ægean Sea, near Byzantium, at the yearly rent of ten thouſand crowns, and ſometimes more.

I am ſenſible, that what I have already ſaid, and part of what follows, will be thought by ſome to run too much into the niceties of law and ſchool, and that it is a thread ſpun too fine. But without the help of ſuch a thread, how fine ſoever it may ſeem, we ſhall wander without end in a labyrinth of phraſes and forms of ſpeech, we ſhall loſe things in the ambiguity of words, and miſtake ſhadows for ſubſtance. He who affirms a ſea-dominion, and by it underſtands any thing leſs than property, embraces a cloud for Juno. To ride actual maſter at ſea, with a well equipped fleet, or to have ſuch a plenty of naval ſtores in conſtant readineſs, as ſhall be ſufficient to anſwer all occaſions, is not the dominion of the ſea: this is power, not property, though the property and honour too, eſpecially of an iſland Prince, are beſt ſecured and ſupported by ſuch power. Neither is the honour of the flag, and of requiring foreign ſhips to lower their ſails and do a reverence, any part of the dominion of the ſeas, nor has any relation to it, as I ſhall ſhew preſently. Much leſs do ſuch uſual expreſſions and words as theſe, the Britiſh ſeas, the ſea of England, our ſeas, import any legal dominion, but only denote a geographical deſcription, *mare Flandricum*, *mare Normannicum*, *mare Aremoricum*, *mare Aquitanicum*, and a hundred others do. And nothing more uſual, than for ſeas to receive their denominations from the ſhores they roll upon; and our ſeas are the ſeas which roll upon our ſhores. But that which occaſions the ordinary and moſt frequent miſtake, is, the word dominion, it being equivocal and of a doubtful ſenſe, as the Latin words *imperium* and *dominium* likewiſe are. For ſometimes they are taken ſtrictly and legally, denoting property, and thus *imperium* and *dominium* are the ſame with public and private property, according to that of Seneca, *Rex omnia poſſidet imperio, ſinguli dominio*,—the King poſſeſſes all by his ſovereignty, and yet particular perſons have their private poſſeſſions too. But then again, ſometimes they are taken looſely and hiſtorically, denoting power only and command, as, *Pompeio datum eſt Imperium Maris intra Herculis columnas*,—the Roman people gave *Imperium Maris* to Pompey, the command of the ſea, not the property of it; they commiſſioned him their Admiral or General at ſea, as far as the Streights Mouth. Thus ſome of the Roman Emperors were entitled *Terræ Mariſq. Domini*, Lords or Deſpots of Sea as well as Land; ſo is Veſpaſian called by Joſephus: and yet they were but lords in power, not in property; for by the very text of the Roman law, as it was afterwards compiled by Juſtinian, the ſea is accounted as common as the air, and that by natural right. And thus ſome men underſtand no more by dominion of the ſea, than what our uſual ſea phraſe imports, to ride maſter at ſea, or of the ſea. But it is one thing to be maſter of it in an hiſtorical and military ſenſe, by a ſuperiority of power and command, as the General of a victorious fleet is, another thing to be maſter of it in a legal ſenſe, by a poſſeſſory right, as the true owner and proprietor of it is. In like manner we ſay of a General at land, that he is maſter of the field; maſter of it in power, not owner of it in title. Property is a fixed and permanent right, a man may loſe his ſeiſin, and yet retain his title,

title, an uſurper is no owner, but power is flitting and tranſitory, and ſo ſoon as the poſſeſſion is loſt, the power is gone. If we confound power and property, *poteſtas & proprietas*, by a promiſcuous uſe of the one for the other, the dominion of the ſea will be like that of our Corniſhmens ball, at one of their hurlings; it is his who can catch it, ſo long as he can keep it, till another gets it from him.

I ſhall add one queſtion more, out of the Roman ſtory, not wholly unworthy obſervation: Tacitus ſays, *Italiam utroque mari duæ claſſes Miſenum apud & Ravennam præſidebant:*—two fleets guarded Italy on both ſeas, one at Miſenum, the other at Ravenna. And Suetonius aſcribes the firſt inſtitution thereof to Auguſtus; *Claſſem Miſeni & alteram Ravennæ ad Tutelam ſuperi & inferi Maris collocavit:*—the fleet at Miſenum was for the ſafety of the upper ſea towards Gaul and Spain weſtwards, the other at Ravenna was for the ſafety of the lower ſea, towards Epirus and Greece eaſtwards. Our Kings in England have ſo exactly followed this model of Auguſtus, that one would think, they had copied from his original. Has Italy an upper and lower ſea? So has England: our upper ſea is that northwards betwixt England and Germany; our lower ſea that ſouth-weſtward betwixt England and France. Had the Roman Emperors their diſtinct fleets, one for each ſea? Our Kings had their diſtinct admiralties, one for the north, and another for the ſouth, reckoning north and ſouth from the mouth of the river Thames. Their fleets were *ad tutelam maris*, ſays Suetonius, for the ſafety of the ſea. Ours *ad cuſtodiam*, ſay our records, for the cuſtody or ſafe keeping it, from being infeſted by pirates, (a trade frequent in former ages amongſt the northern people) and conſequently for ſecuring the navigation and commerce of their ſubjects and allies. The two fleets did *præſidere Italiam*, ſays Tacitus, guard Italy as a garriſon town does a frontier. Ours were alſo called *Naves Præſidiariæ*,—garriſon ſhips, to guard the open ſhores and landing places of a large iſland, againſt the hoſtile inſults and deſcent of foreigners. They are our moveable garriſons, our floating caſtles, fifty of which will defend an iſland better than five thouſand ſtanding ones built round the ſhores.

Beſide the two admiralties of the north and ſouth, the books of our municipal laws make frequent mention of the *quatuor maria*, the four ſeas, environing England to the eaſt, weſt, north, and ſouth. For England, as diſtinct from Scotland, is a peninſula, bounded on the north by an iſthmus of land and the northern ſea. And it is obſervable, that to be *infra* or *intra quatuor maria*, within the four ſeas, is, in conſtruction of our law, to be within the kingdom of England; and to be *extra quatuor maria*, out of the four ſeas, is equipollent to being out of the kingdom of England. And it is to be further obſerved, that not only he who is upon the land, but he alſo who is upon the ſea, is in our law ſaid to be *intra mare*, within the ſea, becauſe he has ſea ſtill before him, till he be arrived on the oppoſite ſhore, and then, and not till then, he is *extra mare*, out of the ſea, or beyond it. And when an Engliſhman is upon the other ſhore, he is then within the liegeance of another Prince, and therefore out of the kingdom of England; but whilſt upon the ſea, he is within the liegeance of his own Prince, and therefore within the kingdom of England. For England is not always taken ſtrictly for the land of it, in which ſenſe the iſles of Jerſey, Guernſey, and Mann, are no part of England, but ſometimes comprehenſively for all the dominions of it, and in legal underſtanding, he is within the kingdom of England, who is within the local liegeance of the crown of England.

The uſe our law makes of this technical phraſe, or artificial form of ſpeech, *intra* or *extra quatuor maria*, within or without the four ſeas, is this, partly to aſſoign or excuſe men from appearance in courts upon writs of ſummons; for if it can truly be alleged, that the party ſummoned is *oultre la mer*, beyond the ſea, this is accepted as a good eſſoign, to ſave his default. But principally to be a certain and regulated diſtance, within which our law will admit of ſome preſumptions, which, beyond that diſtance, it will not. For example, if a huſband be within the four ſeas, and his wife has iſſue, the law preſumes the iſſue legitimate, and will admit of no proof to baſtardize the child, becauſe, within ſo little a diſtance, man and wife might clandeſtinely come together, and none can ſafely ſwear they did not; but if the huſband be out of the four ſeas, the law is otherwiſe. By the ſtatute of the eighteenth of Edward I. a fine, levied in the common bench, concludes him, who is within the four ſeas, if he puts not in his claim within a year and a day, becauſe the law preſumes him near enough, to have timely notice of ſo ſolemn an act as a fine is, and if he ſuffers himſelf to be foreclofed for want of an action or entry, imputes it to his own neglect. By the ſtatute of the fourth of Henry VII. cap. xxiv. the forementioned term of a year and a day is enlarged to five years: and what in the ſtatute of Edward I. is ſaid to be out of the four ſeas, is in this of Henry VII. ſaid to be out of the realm, as equipollent phraſes, and ſignifying the ſame thing. And if a man be out of the realm, when a fine is levied, though it be a public act, the law ſuppoſes him not to have ſufficient notice of a thing done within the realm, and therefore interpoſes an exception to the ſaving of his right. And this is all which our law books mean, when they ſay, the ſea of England is within the realm of England, as in the place quoted in the margin. But whether the ſea be ſo within the realm of England, as to be part of the territorial property of it, excluſively of all other kingdoms and ſtates, that they meddle not with. But to be within the four ſeas, and to be within the realm of England, is, as to ſome purpoſes, in conſtruction and intendment of our law, one and the ſame thing.

Our law books have many other phraſes and expreſſions of ſpecial uſe, but yet do not reach the controverted point betwixt England and other nations. As where it is ſaid, the ſea is of the liegeance of the King, and parcel of his crown of England,—*la mer eſt del liegeance del Roy, & parcel de ſon corone d'Engleterre.* And in another place, it is ſaid, the ſea of England is within the liegeance of the King, as of his crown of England. As to the King's liegeance, it ſtands thus in our law; all natives, or natural-born ſubjects, or perſons born within the King's liegeance (for theſe do tantamount) whereſoever they are, whether at ſea or land, in England or any foreign country, *quocunque ſub axe,* they ſtill owe a native, or natural and inſeparable faith and allegiance to their liege lord the King. Whilſt in England, or upon the ſeas, beſides their natural liegeance, they are within the local liegance of their own ſovereign, and under his immediate protection and defence. But when within the dominions of a foreign Prince, though, as to perſons, they ſtill retain faith to their natural ſovereign; yet, as to place, they are out of his actual obedience, and within the protection of another, which draws ſubjection along with it, and makes them the temporary local ſubjects of that other Prince. And as this is the caſe of Engliſhmen abroad, ſo is it of aliens here in England. A child born at ſea, in any of the King's ſhips, or other Engliſh veſſel, navigated by Engliſh maſter and crew, is a native: if born upon the land of England, in any fort or town poſſeſſed by an enemy, it is born out of the King's liegeance, and therefore an alien. But whereas it is ſaid, the ſea is within the liegeance of the crown of England, this is to be underſtood extenſively of the liegeance of the crown of England, that it reaches to ſea as well as land, not excluſively of the liegeance of other crowns, as if no crown had liegeance at ſea, but that of England only; or, as if no foreigner, aboard his own veſſel, within any of the four ſeas, were within the liegeance of his own natural ſovereign, for this is manifeſtly repugnant to daily fact and experience, as we ſhall ſee anon, when I come to the queſtion of fact.

As to that other expreſſion of the ſeas being parcel of the crown of England, the before-mentioned author, in the place before cited, expounds his meaning to be, that it is parcel of the inheritance of the crown of England. Thus Jetſam, Flotſam, and Lagan, appert in to the King by his prerogative. Goods thrown over board, to lighten a ſhip in diſtreſs by weather, are called Jetſam; goods of a wrecked ſhip, floating upon the waters, are called Flotſam; goods ſunk, with a cork or buoy tied to them, to direct to the place, are called Lagan or Ligan: all theſe goods, if the ſhip periſhes, and no owner can be proved, belong to the King in right of his crown, as treaſure *trove* and *eſtrais* at land do, and all derelicts, whoſe property is loſt, the law adjudges them to the King, as owner paramount. Alſo royal fiſhes, as whales, ſturgeons, &c. taken by the King's ſubjects on the ſeas of England, appertain to the King by his prerogative, but no mention made in any of our law books, of an appropriate fiſhing, excluſive of the people and ſubjects of other princes and ſtates.

I have mentioned theſe paſſages, which occur in the books of our municipal laws, becauſe, though of excellent uſe and undeniable verity, when fitly applied to what they are deſigned and intended, yet if miſapplied to the caſe of the dominion of the four ſeas, as it ſtands betwixt England and other nations, they may and do occaſion error and miſtake. Thoſe books handle caſes betwixt ſubject and ſubject, and ſometimes betwixt crown and ſubject, but not betwixt crown and crown, I mean betwixt England and other kingdoms. Matters of this nature muſt be looked for in the public treaties and tranſactions of ſtate betwixt our Kings and foreign Princes, or in a long peaceable poſſeſſion, which we call preſcription; and theſe I ſhall examine by and by.

Thus far I have endeavoured to clear the true notion of ſea dominion, neither extending it to impeach the free navigation and commerce of peaceable traders, due to them of natural right, and by the law of nations, notwithſtanding ſuch dominion. Nor yet making it a verbal notion only conſiſting in words and forms of ſpeech, without any real fruit and effect, but have inſtanced in three weighty things, as the inſeparable incidents of it. I ſhould now proceed to the matter of fact, but as ſome, without examination, take it for granted, that the accuſtomed ſalutation at ſea by the flag and topſail, is an act of recognition and acknowledgement of the ſovereign dominion of the ſea inherent in that Prince, to whom ſuch ſalutation is performed, I ſhall crave leave to examine this in the firſt place.

CHAP. III.

What the Salutation at Sea by the Flag and Topſail ſignifies, and whether it has any Relation to the Dominion of it.

THE ſalutation at ſea by the flag and topſail, was never covenanted in any of the public treaties, betwixt England and other nations, but in thoſe with the United Netherlands only. And never in any of them till the year 1654. And I am inclinable to believe, that there were particular reaſons why it was then covenanted; partly, becauſe at that time the royal dignity of England was debaſed and diſguiſed under the obſcurer name of a Protectorate: and they who had not refuſed it to an anciently crowned head, might make ſome ſcruple to do it to a new republic. And partly, becauſe that war began upon a diſpute for the honour of the flag. I cannot ſay it was the ſole cauſe of the war, but it was the firſt occaſion of it. For whilſt Blake was in Dover Road with the Engliſh fleet, Tromp with double the number of ſhips, but not equal in goodneſs, ſtood over from the coaſt of Calais directly towards him, and came up cloſe with him, with his flag aloft, jacks and pendants flying,

flying, and all the bravery he could diſplay. Blake was too ſtout to brook the affront, and ſo in plain Engliſh the two Generals fell together by the ears, neither of them knowing how ſoon he might be called to a ſevere account by his ſuperiors, for what he had done. But they juſtified themſelves, by caſting the blame one upon the other, and thus the ſervants quarrel ſoon became the maſters, and both nations engaged in a fierce war; which ended in 1654, and in the thirteenth article of the treaty of peace then concluded, to prevent the like diſputes for the future, it was covenanted, " That the ſhips of the United Provinces, as well thoſe fitted for war, as others, which " ſhould meet in the Britiſh ſeas any the ſhips of war of England, ſhould ſtrike their flag, and lower " their topſail, in ſuch manner as had been any time practiſed before, under any former government." But whereas ſome think, that this was prejudicial to England, to take that by covenant, which they held before by preſcription; I am not ſo clear in that opinion. For what ſtood before upon the foot of courteſy, or of cuſtom at the beſt, was now confirmed by a ſupervening contract, and paſſed into a national law, founded upon mutual conſent. And from the treaty in 1654, it paſſed into that made at Weſtminſter by his late Majeſty in 1662; and from thence into that made at Breda in 1667, in which, as in the former, the flag and topſail are expreſsly covenanted for in the Britiſh ſeas. But by a later treaty, viz. 1673, inſtead of the Britiſh ſeas, there is an enlargement to the ſeas, betwixt Cape Finiſterre, to the middle point of the land Van Staten in Norway.

Here it is to be obſerved, that in the before-mentioned treaties, the ſalutation by the flag and topſail is no where ſaid to be an acknowledgment of the ſovereignty of the crown of England in and over the Britiſh ſeas, nor ſo much as intimated or implied; but, on the contrary, as it were on purpoſe to prevent ſuch a conſtruction, it is expreſsly ſaid to be a reſpect. The words of the treaty 1673 are theſe: " In acknowledgment of the King of Great Britain's right to have his flag reſpected, " they, *i. e.* the Dutch, ſhall ſtrike their flag, and lower their topſail, in the ſame manner, and " with the ſame reſpect, as hath, at any time, or in any place, been formerly practiſed." It is true, it has been offered at to make this reſpect paſs into an acknowledgment of ſovereignty, but it was but an offer, and ſo vaniſhed; for in the project or concept of twenty-ſeven articles, delivered in the year 1653, by the then Engliſh commiſſioners to the Dutch ambaſſadors, in the fifteenth article it was thus propoſed: " That the Dutch ſhips, both men of war and merchants, beſides ſtriking the " flag, ſhould ſuffer themſelves to be viſited, if required, and ſhould perform all due offices of " honour and acknowledgment to England, to whom the dominion and ſovereignty of the Britiſh " ſeas of right appertained." But this article was rejected by the Dutch, as were ſeveral other propoſals of a high nature; for it was then urged, and for ſome time inſiſted on, that there ſhould be a coalition of England and the United Provinces, into one and the ſame republic; not an union only, but an adunation, not a mere coalition into a ſtricter bond and league of friendſhip, but a coalition of both into one government. But this was rejected too, as impracticable.

If the queſtion were only concerning the antiquity of this ceremony, how long it has been practiſed amongſt theſe European nations, (for it had a time when it firſt began, and it does not obtain univerſally) we have a record in our Admiralty, which would be pertinent to this purpoſe. It is an edict or proclamation, publiſhed by King John, at Haſtings in Suſſex, in the ſecond year of his reign, near five hundred years ſince, and is tranſcribed by Mr. Selden out of the records of the Admiralty, to the following purport: " That if any ſhips or veſſels, laden or unladen, refuſed to lower " their ſails at the command of the King's lieutenant or admiral, or of his lieutenant, then to be " compelled to do it by fighting them, and, if taken, their ſhips and goods to be confiſcated;" as may be ſeen more at large in the Mare Clauſum, lib. ii. cap. 26. But the proclamation ſays not, that this lowering of their ſails was to be done, as an acknowledgment of the King's dominion in the

Weſtern Channel, to which ſea, it eſpecially relates; and yet none could have better required it than King John, for he was at that time in actual poſſeſſion both of England and Normandy, and conſequently was actual lord of both ſhores, and might have reckoned the Channel as an appendant and acceſſion to the land, and to have followed it as the acceſſory does the principal; as he is lord of the intermediate river, who is lord of both the banks. But as this proclamation expreſſes no ſuch thing, ſo neither does the penning of it ſeem to incline that way: for it mentions not ſhips of war, who, as ſuch, ought the rather to be obliged to make ſuch acknowledgment, as being moſt likely to diſpute it; but only ſhips laden or unladen, *neſs ou veſſeaulx charges ou voide*, referring to merchants and traders, be their ſhips light or freighted; and theſe merchantmen are to do it, not at the command of every body, but *au commandement du Lieutenant du Roy, ou de l'Admiral du Roy, ou ſon Lieutenant*, at the command of the King's Lieutenant, or the King's Admiral, or his Lieutenant, intimating a perſonal reſpect due to their rank and quality, eſpecially from ſimple traders.

However, it is certain, that this honorary reſpect or civility, call it what you will, is no natural expreſſion of a ſubjection to a ſovereign; for it is not founded in nature, but in inſtitution, and is a practice peculiar to the weſtern nations; and the modes of reſpect are ſo various in different countries, that what in one is a civility, in another is a rudeneſs. And as it is no natural expreſſion of ſubjection, ſo neither is it a neceſſary one, as it muſt neceſſarily ſignify that or nothing; for lowering the flag or ſails, is but like uncovering the head, by vailing the hat or bonnet, (it is ſo called in the journal of King Edward VI. wrote with his own hand,) which, amongſt us, is uſed as a token of ſubjection to our King, of reſpect to our ſuperiors, of civility to our equals, of courteſy to our inferiors. Thus we ſee one and the ſame ſpecific act of uncovering the head, as it relates to perſons of different orders and degrees, admits of divers ſignifications. Some of our ſea captains, though irregularly enough, and for want of explicit orders, have required of the Dutch the honour of the flag and topſail in the Mediterranean and Baltic, where the crown of England never pretended ſovereignty. And as in the before-mentioned treatiſe of 1673, it is particularly named a reſpect, ſo it is covenanted to be done, not only within the Britiſh ſeas, but every where betwixt the Capes, Finiſterre in Spain, and Staten in Norway, beyond the limits of the ſea ſovereignty of England, and conſequently has no relation to it. Beſides, this honour to the King's flag is required from his own ſubjects, but it is needleſs to require from them an acknowledgment of ſovereignty, to whoſe benefit it redounds; the import is, that foreigners would acknowledge it, to whoſe profit it is oppoſed.

Now, if this ceremony does not relate to an acknowledgment of a ſovereignty in the ſea, what does it relate to? And what is the true import and ſignification of it? I anſwer, it imports theſe two things:

I. It is *cultus ſuperioris*, it is a reverence or reſpect performed to a perſon of ſuperior quality and degree.

II. It is *ſymbolum pacis & amicitiæ*, it is a ſign or ſymbolical expreſſion of peace and friendſhip.

Sometimes it ſignifies both theſe together, and ſometimes but one of them, according to the different degrees of the perſons performing it; but it always ſignifies one of them, and never any thing more. The Dutch, and other ſmaller republics, perform it, both as a reſpect to the crowned head of England, and as a ſalutation of peace and friendſhip alſo. But crowned heads cannot perform it as to one of a ſuperior order, becauſe they are in a parity and equality of degree; but they do it upon the latter account only, as it is an expreſſion of peace and amity. The Dutch and others do not, by the flag and topſail, recogniſe the King of England as ſovereign of the four ſeas, nor acknowledge themſelves thereby his local ſubjects, and their perſons, ſhips, and goods, to be under his immediate

diate juriſdiction and protection, whilſt in and upon thoſe ſeas; but they acknowledge him as pre-eminent in order and quality, not as ſovereign over them, but as ſuperior to them in dignity and degree. Were I to expreſs it in Latin, I would do it by that old Roman phraſe of *comiter colere, or obſervare majeſtatem,* they pay honour or reſpect to the majeſty of a crowned iſland. And as to the crowned heads, though they cannot, as I ſaid before, pay reſpect to a ſuperior, becauſe of the parity of their degree; yet, as to the ſea ſalutation by the flag and topſail, there is a peculiarity on the part of England, even in reference to them. A foreign King, when ſhips of war of another nation approach his havens, and come within reach of his caſtles, will expect, and juſtly may, that the comer ſhall ſalute him firſt; the gueſt or ſtranger gives the firſt ſalute to the maſter of the houſe, who thereupon reſalutes him, and bids him welcome. And what does this ſalutation ſignify, be it by lowering flag and topſail, or by firing guns, but that they are come armed before his doors only as friends, and without intention of doing him hurt? But the peculiarity on the part of England conſiſts in this; England is an iſland, whoſe frontier is the ſea, whoſe forts and caſtles are the ſhips of the royal navy, which bear analogy and proportion to the frontier towns and fortified places of inland dominions; and therefore when met with in the ſeas of England by the ſhips of war belonging to any other crowned head, theſe latter ought not to approach the ſhips of war of England, who are in their ſtations upon their guard and duty, with a flag aloft in a poſture of challenge and defiance; but do, in their courſe and paſſage, call to the guard ſhips of England, to tell them, “they are friends;” and what they cannot do by words at that diſtance, they do by mute ſigns, by ſtriking their flag or topſail, which in effect expreſs thoſe words. And when they ſalute thoſe guard-ſhips, by diſcharging their guns, it is, in effect, to tell them, they were not charged againſt them; and though they ſteer their courſe along the coaſts of an open iſland, yet they deſign no hoſtility. This is no diminution to the majeſty of any monarch, how great ſoever, and were the ſalutation thus ſtated with crowned heads, it would be leſs controverted, and the crown of England loſe nothing by it neither.

But if the Dutch perform this ceremony, as a reſpect to a crowned head, without relation to a ſea ſovereignty, why not to France as well as England? ſince they are equally crowned heads, and one has one bank of the Channel, and the other has the other: and what ſhall then become of the peculiar prerogative of the crown of England? This peculiarity on the part of England, as an iſland whoſe principal defence is at ſea, I have touched already. But as to the Dutch performing equal reſpect at ſea to the crown of France, as to that of England, I do not doubt, but they will do it when required thereto. And what remedy is there againſt it, unleſs by contract? For though I may not be covered when I will, yet I may put off my hat and be uncovered when and to whom I pleaſe. The Dutch ſteer their courſe by the pole-ſtar of trade, not by the punctilios of honour. And were this conſtruction put upon their ſtriking their flag to the flag of England, that it is a recognition of a ſea ſovereignty; they would do the ſame to France the rather, and not as a thing impoſed, but upon choice, thereby to diſpropriate and lay common, what England would incloſe as her property. Nor would it be a new thing for France to ſet up for the honour of the flag and topſail, for it was expreſsly ſtipulated in the twelfth article of the league offenſive and defenſive, made in the year 1635, betwixt Lewis XIII. and the States General, that upon occaſion of any conjunction of the French and Dutch fleets, “The Dutch Admiral ſhould firſt ſalute the French with flag and topſail, and fire his guns, in ſuch manner as had been practiſed towards the King of Great Britain upon the like occaſion.” And Henry II. and Henry III. of France, did both of them publiſh their royal edicts, one in the year 1555, the other in 1580, commanding all foreign ſhips indefinitely (I ſuppoſe traders) to lower their topſails to the ſhips of war of France, upon pain of ſeizure and confiſcation; and ſome Hamburghers were forcibly taken, for not conforming to thoſe edicts. But may not the preſent French King ſay, what Cæſar once did, *Sylla fecit, non ipſe faciam?* Did the two Henrys do this in the faint times of their languiſhing reigns, and ſhall not I do it, who can cover with fleets of war the three ſeas, which cover the coaſts of France? I have read ſomewhere in the French memoirs, I think in thoſe of the Duke de Sully, that the whole naval ſtrength of the crown of France, in the beginning of Henry IV. was about half a dozen ſhips of war, ſuch as they were, at Breſt and Rochelle, and about a ſcore of gallies in the Mediterranean. But this laſt-named great King dreſſed a new plan of the French monarchy, and drew out the lines of it larger than before; and though his great deſign was interrupted by an immature death, and by the ſucceeding minority of his ſon, yet the great Cardinal, I mean Richlieu, reſumed it again. He firſt taught France, that the French flower-de-luces could grow at ſea as well as land. He decked and adorned the lofty ſterns of his new built ſhips with this prophetic inſcription——*Florent quoque lilia ponto.*

Having done with the ſea ſalutation, I come to the fourth general head, under which,

CHAP IV.

The whole Matter of Fact between the Crown of England and Foreign Princes and States, in the ſeveral Incidents of Sea Dominion, is diſtinctly examined and impartially reported.

I AM now upon a queſtion of fact only, how far this dominion and ſovereignty in the ſeas has been acknowledged, as a right inherent in the crown of England, by any of the neighbouring nations; either expreſsly in public treaties and tranſactions of ſtate, or impliedly, by an immemorial, peaceable, and uninterrupted poſſeſſion, commonly called preſcription. This I call the queſtion of fact, and diſtinguiſh it from that of right, to which it is ſubſequent. For a right to any thing, in one, is antecedent to the acknowledgment of it by another, and though his non-acknowledgment may render it controverted, yet it may be a juſt right and legal claim notwithſtanding. The right of the crown of England to the dominion of the ſeas I meddle not with, it ſtands, as it did, unmoveable, like *Terminus* in the capitol with a *cedo nulli*, it gives place to none. But the enquiry is, whether in fact it has been conſented to by foreign nations; by which teſt, we ſhall be able to diſcover, whether the crown of England has loſt any thing in matter of ſea ſovereignty, which it formerly poſſeſſed. In order to which, I ſhall diſtinctly handle and examine the three great and inſeparable incidents of the ſovereignty, which I before named.

I. The excluſion of foreign men of war from paſſing upon any the ſeas of England, without ſpecial licence, for that purpoſe, firſt obtained.

II. The ſole marine juriſdiction within thoſe ſeas.

III. The appropriate fiſhery.

I begin with the firſt, and the enquiry is, whether any ſovereign Prince or State, having occaſion to enter upon any the ſeas of England, with men of war, either in entire fleets, or as convoys to merchants, have firſt aſked leave ſo to do of the King of England, as the ſupreme lord of the territory.

I have

I have often met with a traditional ſtory, both in diſcourſe and in printed pamphlets; that Queen Elizabeth having intelligence that Henry IV. of France had a deſign to increaſe the naval ſtrength of his kingdom, and to equip a conſiderable fleet of war, not only for the Mediterranean, but for the ſeas alſo toward England, ſhe ſent to bid him deſiſt from it. That the Queen might requeſt him not to put out on theſe ſeas with an unuſual fleet, as that which might occaſion jealouſy in her ſubjects, and oblige her to an extraordinary expence in arming proportionably, and conſequently weaken the amity and good aſſurance betwixt the two crowns; I ſay that ſhe might do this, for I do not find that ſhe did it, is neither morally impoſſible, nor wholly diſagreeable to the practice among princes. But that ſhe did, *pro jure*, interdict and forbid him ſo doing, as an intrenchment and invaſion of her right, by entering with an armed force upon the territories of her crown, without her leave; for this I ſhall ſuſpend my belief till better vouchers be produced. It is too common amongſt men, firſt, to form their opinions, and then to ſeek their proofs; and ſome, rather than not find them, will deviſe them.

There is another current ſtory of the ſame alloy; that Queen Elizabeth ſeized in the Bay of Caſcais in Portugal, ſixty laden ſhips belonging to the Hans-Towns of Germany, and afterwards confiſcated both ſhips and goods, "for having preſumptuouſly paſſed over her ſeas, without firſt obtaining her royal permiſſion." In this, ſeveral miſtakes are complicated together, one in law, and two in fact. That in law is this,—ſuppoſing the ſeas to have been univerſally acknowledged as the Queen's undoubted right, yet ought not the Hanſeatics, who were friends and peaceable traders, and purſuing their lawful occaſions, to have been confiſcated, for not aſking leave of paſſage over thoſe ſeas, had there been nothing more in the caſe, becauſe they needed not in law ſo to have done. No more than a market-man needs aſk leave of the owner to paſs his field, over which the market-path lies. The two miſtakes in fact are theſe.

1. The ſaid ſixty ſail of ſhips did not in fact paſs the ſeas of England, and therefore could not be confiſcated upon that account. Mr. Camden, our faithful annaliſt, ſays expreſsly, and ſo does Thuanus too, that they paſſed on the north of Scotland, by the Orcades, Hebrides, and great Weſtern Ocean on the backſide of Ireland, a long and dangerous paſſage, to avoid being intercepted in the Channel by the Queen's ſhips.

2. The ſole reaſon why they were confiſcated was this; becauſe they carried goods of *contrabanda*, prohibited goods, viz. corn, which at that time Spain wanted, and naval proviſions to the relief of an enemy, who, at that time, was preparing a new fleet for the invaſion of England, in revenge of the diſgrace he had received the year before, viz. in 1588. And this they did contrary to the Queen's proclamation and monitory letters to the Hans-Towns, whereby ſhe forbad them to ſupply Spain, her declared enemy, with ſuch proviſions, under the penalty of forfeiting ſhips and goods. Thus the Dutch, in the year 1652, when by their intereſt and influence in the court of Denmark, they had cauſed an Engliſh fleet of above twenty merchantmen, laden with pitch, tar, flax, hemp, and other naval ſtores, to be arreſted in the Sound, ſuppoſing that England, with whom they were then at war, would be diſtreſſed for want of ſuch proviſions, they publiſhed a placart, forbidding all in general to import into England any of the aforeſaid materials, upon pain of confiſcation thereof, as being a relief to an enemy, in things they particularly wanted for proſecuting the war againſt them. I inquire not here, *quo jure*, by what right the Dutch did this; and whether it was not a violation of the free commerce of neutral nations. But I only inſtance in the fact, as parallel with what the Queen did: nay, the States did far more than what the Queen did, comes to; for they, in the year 1599, almoſt in the infancy of their republic, publiſhed a placart, forbidding all nations any commerce with Spain, not in this or that prohibited commodity, but in all goods and merchandiſes whatſoever. *Vetant*

populos quoſcunque ullos commeatus reſve alias in Hiſpanium ferre. They are the very words of Grotius, in his Belgic Annals, the eighth book: this by the way only.

If we conſult the public treaties which have been made betwixt England and other ſovereigns, concerning ſhips of war paſſing theſe ſeas, we ſhall find the manner to have been as follows. The uſual covenants are, and have been, that the ſhips of war, of either ſide, may freely come into the roads, havens, and rivers, each of the other, provided they be not in ſuch number as may occaſion ſuſpicion; and therefore the number is aſcertained, and not to be exceeded, unleſs to avoid imminent danger, and in ſuch caſe, notice to be given thereof. For example: in the treaty concluded at Madrid, in the year 1630, betwixt Charles I. of England, and Philip IV. of Spain, which treaty was but a renewal of the former made with King James, in the year 1604, it is, in the eighth article, agreed, "That it ſhall be lawful to have acceſs unto each others ports with ſhips of war, whether they ſhall arrive there, either by force of tempeſt, or for neceſſary repairs, or for proviſion of victuals; ſo they exceed not eight, when they come of their own accord, nor ſtay longer than they ſhall have cauſe. And when any greater number ſhall have occaſion of acceſs, they are not to enter the port, without the privity or conſent of the King." This is the form of all the treaties; and articles, like to this, have been agreed betwixt England and France, and England and Holland, but they are always reciprocal; and as their ſhips of war are reſtrained from acceſs to the Engliſh ports, ſo are the Engliſh from acceſs to theirs in equal manner. And it is to be obſerved, that the reſtraint is only from acceſs to each others ports, but never any reſtraint of foreign ſhips of war from entering, in what number they pleaſe, the ſeas of England. Thus in the year 1639, which was but nine years after the treaty before-mentioned at Madrid, a Spaniſh fleet, of above ſixty ſail, equipped for war, entered the Weſtern Channel, without leave firſt aſked, bound for Oſtend, to ſupply the Spaniſh Netherlands with men, munition, and other neceſſaries, and paſſed the Channel to the height of Dover. And the Dutch fleet put out in like manner upon the North-eaſt Sea, and fought the Spaniſh fleet in the Downs. It is true, that Sir John Pennington, who then commanded the Engliſh guard, endeavoured to hinder them from fighting ſo near the ports, to the diſturbance of the ſecurity and protection of them, and troubling the commerce and intercourſe of the King's lieges and allies. But no complaint was made, either then or afterwards, of the two fleets of war entering the ſeas aforeſaid, parcel of the dominion and territory of the crown of England, without a ſpecial licence firſt aſked and obtained. And it would be time miſ-ſpent to recount how often either Spaniards, French, or Dutch, have entered theſe ſeas with armed fleets and convoys, as their occaſions obliged them, freely, without leave and without controul. I ſpeak not here of the private notices and intimations, which one Prince may, in a friendly manner, give another, to ſatisfy him of the reaſon of any extraordinary military preparations, and of the clearneſs of his intentions towards him: but of a formal previous leave to be aſked and obtained by a foreign prince or ſtate, before they put out to ſea, upon the maritime territory of the crown of England, in a warlike equipage.

In the year 1652, the States General gave public notice, by their ambaſſadors here in England, that they had reſolved to fit out to ſea an extraordinary fleet of one hundred and fifty men of war, beſides thoſe in preſent ſervice, for the ſecurity and preſervation of their navigation and commerce. They did not aſk leave to do it, but firſt reſolved upon it, and then gave notice, and they pretended this notice was an argument of their ſincerity and good-will, in order to prevent all miſunderſtandings, and ſiniſter interpretations. But they in England underſtood it otherwiſe, and reſented it as a bravado and inſult.

I paſs now to the ſecond incident of the ſovereignty, to examine the matter of fact as to that, viz. The Marine Juriſdiction.

It is commonly affirmed by Engliſh writers, that our King Richard I. (the French give a different account) did, in his return from the Holy Land, make and declare certain marine laws, for the better regulation of commerce, which, from the place of their firſt publication, were called the laws of Oleron: a ſmall iſland, ſituate in the Bay of Aquitain, and a member of that great and wealthy Dutchy, which was in the actual poſſeſſion of King Richard, as his maternal inheritance; for it came to his father Henry II. by marriage with Eleanor, daughter and heireſs of William Duke of Aquitain. And by the way it may be noted, that this dutchy, either in whole or part, continued in poſſeſſion of the Kings of England by ten deſcents, to the thirty-ſecond of Henry VI. near three hundred years, though that of Normandy continued but five deſcents, and ended in King John. But whether theſe laws were publiſhed, as aforeſaid, by King Richard, or whether about ſixty years after, as ſome printed editions would have them, is not an enquiry pertinent to this place. Be it admitted, thoſe laws were publiſhed by King Richard, who was actual Duke both of Aquitain and Normandy, and in right of the latter, lord on both ſides the Engliſh Channel. The great intercourſe betwixt his Engliſh and French ſubjects, and thoſe of his allies, required a certain rule of ſea-laws for the more ſpeedy and impartial determination of all controverſies which might occaſionally ariſe. Theſe laws of Oleron, as to the main of them, are but a tranſcript of the old Rhodian laws, with ſome additions and amendments, accommodated to the practice of that age, and the cuſtoms of the weſtern nations; who thereupon might readily conform to them, as to a common ſtandard and meaſure, like a law of nations, for the more equal diſtribution of juſtice amonſt the people of different governments. But to infer from hence an univerſal monarchy at ſea, and that King Richard, in right of his imperial crown of England, and ducal crowns of Normandy and Aquitain, did, as ſole or ſupreme legiſlator for the marine, authoritatively impoſe ſea-laws upon the people and ſubjects of other nations, is but a ſtrained inference. The Romans were far enough from yielding a ſea ſovereignty to the little republic of Rhodes, and yet were ſo well ſatisfied with the equity of their ſea-laws, that they not only conformed to them, but incorporated them into the body of their digeſt. And as the Rhodian laws obtained in the Mediterranean, and the laws of Oleron in the Weſtern and Engliſh Seas: ſo the laws of Wiſbuy, a town ſituate upon the little iſle of Gotland, in the eaſtern part of the Baltic, formerly under Denmark, now under the crown of Sweden, called from thence *Leges Wiſbuicenſes*, were received by the general conſent of the northern traders, as a common meaſure for all nautical affairs, to the northwards of the Rhine, and throughout the whole Baltic.

That the ſea is within the juriſdiction of the King of England, is a matter unqueſtionable, not at home only, but amongſt all nations. His Admiral has, and ever had, through a long ſeries of ages, the conuſance of all contracts, pleas, and quarrels made upon the ſea, out of the body of any county of England. Which power is enlarged by the ſtatute of the fifteenth of Richard II. cap. ii. to death, and mayhem upon great ſhips in the main ſtream of great rivers. And by the ſtatute of twenty-eighth of Henry VIII. cap. xv. a court of commiſſion may be held under the great ſeal, *coram admirallo*, &c. to hear and determine all treaſons, felonies, robberies, &c. done or committed upon the ſea. But then it is evident and undeniable alſo, that the neighbouring kingdoms and ſtates, who border upon the ſea, have their diſtinct admiralties likewiſe, and have long ſince had, where their ſubjects and people receive final ſentence in all maritime cauſes, without exception of any ſeas, or without appeal to the admiralty of England, as the laſt reſort, or as having ſupreme conuſance of all things done and committed in and upon the Britiſh Seas. If a French or Dutch veſſel take a pirate of what nation ſoever, who has committed a robbery upon the Engliſh Seas, they do not remit him to the Admiralty of England, as the ſole tribunal of the place, where the fact was done, to receive ſentence; but they carry him before their own judicatories, and judge him as an enemy of mankind by the law of nations. If one foreigner does any injury to another, be it fraud or violence, upon the Britiſh Seas, the party injured makes not his complaint to the Admiralty of England, as the proper court, and as having the ſole juridical conuſance of his plea, but reſorts to the juriſdiction of his own Sovereign, or to that of the Sovereign of the wrong-doer, and there impleads him, and prays for juſtice. If a Frenchman kill a Frenchman, one alien another, upon the land of England, the fact is committed within the local liegeance of the King of England, and againſt the peace and protection of his crown, and therefore triable before his courts; but if two Engliſhmen be under the pay and ſervice of the French King, and one of them kill the other, on board a French man of war, within the four ſeas, the French King's judicature will have the conuſance of the crime, as done within his liegance, and againſt the peace and protection of his crown.

Thus ſtands the matter of fact, as to the marine juriſdiction, and thus it has been for many ages; but yet there is an ancient precedent, which ſeems to impugn ſomething that has been ſaid, and not to take notice of it, were to report things unfaithfully; and, therefore, I crave leave to examine it. It is a bundle or roll in the Tower of London, ſuperſcribed, De Superioritate Maris Angliæ, &c. Jure Officii Admiralitus in eodem: record, I can ſcarce call it, for it is not any judicial act or monument of a court of record; and it may be read, as it is tranſcribed at large by Lord Chief Juſtice Coke, and by Mr. Selden, who ſtrongly inſiſts upon it.

I ſhall abbreviate it truly; and, in ſhort, the caſe was this:

A league had been concluded betwixt Edward I. of England, and Philip the Fair of France, in which it was covenanted, that each ſhould defend the other's rights, and neither relieve the other's enemy. After this, a war enſued betwixt Philip and the Earl of Flanders, whom Edward ſecretly favoured. Whereupon, Reynald Grimbald, who was General at ſea for the King of France, took ſeveral ſhips both of England and of other nations trading to Flanders, and confiſcated ſhips and goods, and impriſoned perſons, as carrying relief to an enemy. Upon which, and other complaints, commiſſioners were appointed by both Kings, called in the roll, writ in Norman French, *Auditours Deputez per les Roys d'Engleterre & de France a redreſſer les Damages faits.* The plaintiffs, who were of ſeveral nations, appear by their procurators or attorneys before the ſaid commiſſioners, and join altogether in one bill or libel, as being all involved in one common cauſe. In the rehearſal of the ſaid libel, it is alleged, that, "Whereas the Kings of England, by reaſon of the ſaid kingdom, from time to time, whereof there is no memory to the contrary, have been in peaceable poſſeſſion of the ſovereign dominion of the Sea of England, and of the iſles of the ſame, by ordaining of laws, &c. And whereas it is covenanted in the league lately made betwixt the two Kings, that each ſhould defend the other's rights, franchiſes, and liberties, &c. Monſieur Reyner Grimbald, commander of the Fleet of the King of France, who names himſelf Admiral of the ſaid Sea, being commiſſioned by that King to ſerve him in his war againſt Flanders, hath, contrary to the ſaid league, wrongfully aſſumed the office of the admiralty of the ſaid ſea of England, upon pretence of the ſaid commiſſion, taking the people and merchants, &c. They pray that the perſons, ſhips, and goods, ſo taken, may be delivered to our Admiral of the King of England, to whom the conuſance of the whole matter of right appertained."

He who ſhall read more at large, in the places before-quoted, the magnificent attributes given to the Kings of England, of their being peaceably poſſeſſed, time immemorial, of the ſovereign dominion of the ſea of England, by ordaining laws and ſtatutes, prohibiting arms and armed veſſels, taking ſureties, and giving ſafeguards, and ordaining all other things neceſſary to the preſervation of peace and right amongſt all people paſſing upon that ſea, &c. will at firſt view be ready to cry out, *Fuimus Troes, fuit Ilium!*—We were Engliſhmen! England was! And yet perhaps no need of ſuch exclamation. At firſt reading, it ſeemed to me, at ſome diſtance, like a ſtone wall athwart my way, and no poſſibility of paſſing further; but, when I examined it more nearly, I found it but a ſilken curtain of ſpecious words, drawn artificially before the eye, and eaſy to be put back by the hand.

Firſt, It is to be obſerved, that all this is but a *plaidoyé*, a plea or action, a ſupplicatory libel, or bill of complaint. No definitive ſentence or arreſt, nothing that did paſs in *rem judicatam.* This alone, were there nothing more, is ſufficient to abate the intrinſic value of it. The roll makes no mention of any deciſion given by the delegates upon any the matters contained in the libel, and either none was given, which ſeems moſt probable, and thoſe controverſies decided ſome other way, or the roll is left imperfect.

Secondly, Though the intereſſents of ſeveral nations, as Danes, Germans, Hollanders, &c. ſuffered damage by the ſeizures of Grimbald, in like manner as the Engliſh did, and therefore joined with them in the ſame libel; yet the libel was penned by the Engliſh Council, as is manifeſt by the addreſs or direction of it; *A vous Seigneurs Auditeurs deputez,* To you, Lords Auditors deputed, *par les Roys d'Engleterre & de France,* by the Kings of England and France; where England has the preference of order to France, contrary to the ſtile of neutral nations of that age.

Thirdly, The allegation, of the Kings of England, having been time immemorial in the peaceable poſſeſſion of the ſovereignty of the ſea, was not made by the French delegates in the name of the King their maſter, but by Engliſh advocates in favour of their client's cauſe. The French King had commiſſioned Grimbald to exerciſe juriſdiction at ſea, by arreſting and confiſcating ſhips and goods, and impriſoning perſons, for carrying relief to the Earl of Flanders, his enemy; by which commiſſion Grimbald juſtified himſelf for doing ſuch acts, as were manifeſtly repugnant to the peaceable poſſeſſion of the ſaid ſovereign dominion on the part of England. If the King of France had acknowledged the Admiral of England, the only competent judge of things done and committed upon the ſea of England, why did he, together with the King of England, depute auditors or delegates for determining thoſe matters then in controverſy?

Fourthly, The art in penning the ſaid libel is remarkable: it affirms, the marine juriſdiction of the Admiral of England; but it does not except againſt a power in the King of France, to conſtitute an Admiral with the like juriſdiction, and that upon the ſea towards Flanders. For it is certain, that the crown of France had admirals before the time of Philip the Fair. It is true, that great body of the kingdom of France had been cantonized and divided, after the manner of the German nations, into many *franca feuda,* as they called them, free fees, which are ſupreme and independent ſovereignties, only the perſons of thoſe ſovereigns under a perſonal obligation of fealty to another. The reſpective feudatory princes were fiduciary homagers to the Kings of France, but the crown of France had no regal juriſdiction or authority within thoſe principalities. Thus, the great dukedoms of Aquitain and Normandy were under the Kings of England, that of Britanny was under a duke of its own, the earldoms of Provence, Tolouſe, and Flanders, acknowledged their own ſovereign Counts.

☞ In thoſe days, the crown of France had only a ſmall ſea-coaſt upon Picardy, and ſome in the Mediterranean: but, in the time of Philip the Fair, that crown was in the actual poſſeſſion of all Normandy: and, as the other principalities became incorporated into the body of France, from whence they had formerly been diſmembered, as now they all are, excepting ſome part of Flanders;

that

that kingdom, as it enlarged itſelf to the ſea, by the acceſſion of many new coaſts, ſo the marine juriſdiction thereof increaſed proportionably. I ſay, the fore-recited libel does not deny a civil power or capacity in the crown of France to create an admiral, and to inveſt him with marine juriſdiction; but the exception is partly againſt Grimbald, and partly againſt his illegal practices and ſeizures, contrary to the alliance made betwixt the two Kings. Now this Grimbald was a foreigner, and a mercenary; he was a Genoeſe, whom the King of France had hired, with ſeveral gallies of that republic, to ſerve him in his war againſt Flanders. The plaintiffs, in their libel, call him *Maiſtre de la Navy du Roy de France*, Maſter or Commander of the French fleet, but would not vouchſafe him the title of an Admiral, only *Que ſe dit eſtre Admiral*, that he called himſelf an Admiral, and craftily reclaim the cognizance of their cauſe from him, as an incompetent judge, to the Admiral of England, as an undoubted authority, and before whom they were ſure to gain their proceſs.

I have done with the marine juriſdiction, and proceed now to the third and laſt incident of the dominion of the ſea, and which inſeparably follows it, and that is the ſole fiſhing; without which, it would be a property without profit, a name without a thing. He who has the ſoil or ground, has the herbage, and other growth of it, or elſe a rent for it; if others may freely depaſture with him, it is a common. The enquiry is upon the matter of fact, as to fiſhing upon the ſeas about England, in which our public treaties made betwixt our Kings and other Sovereigns, will be our beſt direction; and they ſtand thus:—All the ancient treaties I could meet with, concluded betwixt the ſeveral Kings of England and their old confederates the Dukes Britanny and Burgundy, which in thoſe ages were the moſt powerful neighbours they had at ſea, are of the ſame tenor, and run in the ſame form, viz. They covenant on both ſides, that their reſpective ſubjects ſhould freely, and without the let or hinderance one of another, fiſh every where upon the ſeas, without aſking any licences, paſſports, or ſafe-conducts. This is the general form of them all. For example: in the treaty betwixt Edward the Fourth of England, and Francis Duke of Britanny, the article, in the French of that time, runs thus:—That the fiſhermen, both of the kingdom of England and duchy of Britanny, *purront peaceablement aller par tout ſur mer pour peſcher & gaigner leur vivre, ſans impeachement, ou diſturber de l'une partie ou de l'autre, & ſans leur ſoit beſoigne ſur ceo requirir ſauf conduct.* And the ſame form had been uſed before, in the treaty betwixt Henry the Sixth and the then Ducheſs of Burgundy. Thus alſo, in the famous treaty called *Intercurſus Magnus*, made in the year 1495, betwixt Henry the Seventh of England, and Philip the Fourth, Archduke of Auſtria, and Duke of Burgundy, in the fourteenth article it is agreed, *Quod piſcatores utriuſque partis poterint ubique ire, navigare per mare, ſecure piſcari, abſque impedimento licentia ſeu ſalvo conductu.* And this form is alſo preſerved in the treaty made betwixt Henry the Eighth and Charles the Fifth, Emperor and Duke of Burgundy. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, after that ſeven of the ſeventeen provinces had ſet up diſtinct ſovereignties of their own, they ſtill enjoyed the ſame freedom of fiſhing as they had done before, when united with the houſe of Burgundy. And in the treaty made betwixt King James of England and Philip of Spain, in the year 1604, the ancient treaties of intercourſe and commerce betwixt the kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions of the Dukes of Burgundy, and Princes of the Low Countries, are revived and re-confirmed. From whence it appears, upon the whole matter of fact, that the Kings of England, in their treaties with other Sovereigns, not once or twice, but in a ſucceſſion of ages, not by ſurprize, but deliberately, and when the buſineſs of the fiſhery came under ſpecial conſultation, did not challenge to themſelves the ſole right thereof, excluſively of all others, as being appropriated to the crown of England: for had they eſteemed the fiſhery the property of their crown, and all aliens excluded from it, they would not have admitted the ſubjects of Britanny and Burgundy to a promiſcuous fiſhing with their own ſubjects, without ſome valuable conſideration had been given for it, or at leaſt ſome licence obtained, as a beneficiary grant derived from them, or ſome acknowlegement made by way of a *ſalvo jure*, to the right of the crown of England: elſe it would be as unreaſonable, as if a man ſhould throw down the incloſures of his own ground, and lay that common which before was his property, which is too groſs a reflection upon the wiſdom of thoſe ages. And this may be further illuſtrated by a familiar inſtance. Suppoſe here in England two great manors, and betwixt them a large lake of freſh water, well ſtored with fiſh, and it can be proved, that not only time out of mind, the tenants of the two manors have promiſcuouſly fiſhed therein, but that alſo the lords of both manors have, in ſeveral ages, contracted with each other for a free fiſhing, without leave or licence to be firſt aſked or obtained for their reſpective tenants. And, in the contract, no exception or reſervation is made of the fiſhery, as parcel of the inheritance of one of the ſaid manors, nor any words creating a tenure, whereby one ſhould hold of the other; nor expreſſing nor implying, that it was but a temporary ſufferance, that one of the lords ſhould ſhare for a time in the profits of the fiſhing, without any ſhare in the fee or inheritance of it: and this by the free donation of the other, commonly called *de gratia ſpeciali*, or for a valuable conſideration, uſually termed, *quid pro quo*, or to hold by ſome ſmall acknowledgement or tenure, as of a pepper corn yearly. But the contract ſtands on both ſides upon an equal foot, both lords equally giving and taking an undiſturbed liberty for their reſpective tenants. This, I humbly conceive, is good evidence that the fiſhery lies common to both manors. Suppoſe again this lake to be the ſea, and the two manors to be two kingdoms, and the caſe will ſtill be the ſame.

None of our leagues and treaties made either with the houſe of Burgundy, or with the houſe of Auſtria, ſince the union of thoſe two houſes, or with the States-General, ſince their diſunion from both, have ever reſerved to the crown of England, any annual payment, fee-farm, or conſideration for their liberty of fiſhing in our ſeas. A certain ſum was never agreed, an uncertain one could never be demanded. And yet Sir John Boroughs, in his book of The Sovereignty of the Britiſh Seas, ſays, that Philip the Second, King of Spain, obtained of Queen Mary, his wife, licence for his ſubjects to fiſh upon the north coaſts of Ireland, they paying yearly for the ſame one thouſand pounds ſterling, which was accordingly paid into the Exchequer of Ireland. But, inſtead of an authentic record, he vouches only the hearſay of Sir Edward Fitton, ſon to Sir Henry Fitton, ſome time Treaſurer of Ireland, who, he ſays, had often teſtified it. This may the rather be ſuſpected of miſtake, becauſe Mr. Camden relates, how that Queen Elizabeth having ſent four ambaſſadors, whereof one was principal Secretary of State, and not likely to be ſuppoſed ignorant of ſuch an affair, to treat at Bremen with the ambaſſadors of Denmark, upon complaint of that King's forbidding foreigners the freedom of fiſhing betwixt Norway and Iceland, both appertaining to the crown of Denmark: the Queen's ambaſſadors openly affirmed, that the Kings of England had in no time forbid the freedom of fiſhing in the Iriſh ſea, albeit they were lords of both banks.

Mr. Camden alſo, in his Deſcription of the North-Riding of Yorkſhire, ſpeaking of Scarborough Caſtle, ſays, that the Hollanders and Zealanders take wonderful quantities of herring upon this coaſt; *cum veniam prius veteri inſtituto ex hoc Caſtro impetraverint:* whereas they were wont, by ancient uſe, to aſk leave firſt of the Caſtle. For, ſays he, the Engliſh always gave leave to fiſh, reſerving that honour to themſelves, but ſlothfully reſigning the profit to others. But all this while, he quotes no authority neither, nor directs us to any original record, where we might conſult the plain truth of the caſe. Perhaps what he hiſtorically calls aſking leave, was but giving notice of their arrival, and acquainting the governor who they were, and what their buſineſs was upon the coaſt, leſt, under the diſguiſe of fiſhermen, pirates and enemies might privily hide themſelves. And probably

bably he, by his civilities to the fiſhermen, might make ſome perquiſites and profits to his place, by permitting them, as occaſion required, to dry their nets aſhore, to fetch victual or freſh water from land, to fiſh within the havens and bays, where commonly the beſt-fed fiſh are taken. But it is not likely that the governor of Scarborough had ſo indefinite a power, as to enable him to give leave, upon bare aſking, without any farther condition or conſideration, to all foreigners, to fiſh at pleaſure, within the royalties of the crown. However, it is too manifeſt, that no prince nor ſtate did ever pay to the crown of England any yearly ſum of money, or other valuable conſideration, for the liberty of their ſubjects fiſhing upon the ſeas of England: for, had ſuch ſum been paid, it would have paſſed into the accompt of the Exchequer, as a branch of the royal revenue, and there remain upon record.

As for the caſe of my Lord of Northumberland, in the year 1636, that is extraordinary, and will not paſs for a precedent. The Dutch buſſes were then required by the Engliſh admiral to take licences from him for fiſhing in the northern ſeas, and to pay moderate rates for the obtaining thoſe licences, which they did, to redeem themſelves from the forcible moleſtations of a well-appointed fleet. So that this was the compulſory act of private perſons, not the voluntary act of the States-General; who were ſo far from conſenting to what was done, that they made remonſtrances and complaints of this proceeding by their ambaſſadors here in England.

And as it appears not by the records of the Exchequer, that any recompence was given by foreigners for liberty of fiſhing within our ſeas; ſo neither does it appear by any the public treaties, that the ſubjects of any foreign Prince ſhould aſk leave for ſo doing, by ſtipulation and contract, though they were ſure to have it without paying any thing, only, by the bare aſking, to keep in memory a perpetual acknowledgement of a beneficiary grant derived from the crown of England, as ſupreme lord of the fee. On the contrary, the treaties caution for a liberty of fiſhing, *abſq; licentia*, without any leave or licence firſt to be aſked. And yet England has aſked leave, and covenanted ſo to do, of a foreign crown. I would not have mentioned this, had it been a ſecret; but it is a thing public and in print. By a treaty made and concluded in the year 1490, betwixt Henry VII. of England, and John II. of Denmark, which treaty was afterwards renewed betwixt our Henry VIII. and their Chriſtiern II. in the year 1523, it was mutually covenanted, that the liegemen, merchants, and fiſhermen of England, ſhould fiſh and traffic upon the Northern Sea, betwixt Norway and Iceland; but under a proviſo of firſt aſking leave, and renewing their licences from ſeven years to ſeven years, *de ſeptennio in ſeptennium*, from the Kings of Denmark and Norway and their ſucceſſors: they are the words of the treaties. But as navigation enlarged, and England grew more opulent in trade, and potent at ſea, all this is gone into utter diſuſe and diſcontinuance; and the Kings of England may with better right prohibit the ſubjects of Denmark from paſſing the Engliſh Sea or Channel, without ſpecial licence firſt obtained, than the Kings of Denmark can, the ſubjects of England from paſſing the Northern Sea betwixt Denmark and Iceland.

There is a record, which Mr. Selden quotes out of a Parliament Roll of King Richard II. that is very remarkable. It is a grant in Parliament of an impoſition, according to certain rates and proportions, upon all veſſels paſſing or fiſhing within the Admiralty of the North, viz. upon the ſea northwards from the mouth of the Thames. The rates were as follow:

I. To take of every ſhip, going and coming upon that ſea, ſix pence a ton for the voyage.

II. To take of every veſſel fiſhing for herring, ſix pence a ton by the week.

III. To take of veſſels fiſhing for other fiſh, ſix pence a ton for every three weeks.

IV. Of ſhips laden at Newcaſtle with coals, ſix pence a ton for every three months.

V. To

V. To take, of all other ſhips paſſing the ſea within the ſaid Admiralty, laden in Pruſſia, Norway, Sconen, or elſewhere in thoſe parts, ſix-pence a laſt for the voyage.

Some collect and infer from hence, (I confeſs, I cannot) that King Richard, by aſſent in Parliament, did impoſe theſe rates, not only upon ſubjects, but foreigners, for trading and fiſhing within the North-eaſt Sea, as part of the territorial property of the crown. Were it ſo, it would be a matter of mighty weight and moment. But it is queſtionable, whether thoſe words of univerſality, *cheſcun nief & cheſcun veſſeau*, (for the roll is written in Norman French) every ſhip and every veſſel, ought not to be reſtrained to Engliſh veſſels only, and not extended to thoſe of foreigners, and if extended to foreigners, ſince the grant is ſaid to be made, *per l'Advis des merchands de Londres & de autres merchands vers la north*, it is worth the conſidering, whether theſe words, "other merchants towards the north," are not in like manner to be extended to foreigners as well as natives; that is to ſay, to Hanſeatics, and all other merchants, whether Engliſh or others, dwelling or trading towards the north; who, having often occaſion to paſs and repaſs the northern ſea, at that time infeſted with rovers, adviſed the ſaid grant: which word implies a requeſt or deſire, ſomewhat more than a bare conſent. And what was this impoſt for, which they adviſed might be laid upon all their ſhips and veſſels? The roll tells us expreſsly, that it was *pur la garde & tuition du mier*, &c. for the guard and ſecurity of the ſea and of the coaſts of the admiralty of the north, with two ſhips, two barges, and two ballengers, armed and arrayed for war. And it is moſt probable, that not the King himſelf, but private perſons, commiſſioned from him, undertook, at their own expence, to equip and arm the ſaid veſſels, for the benefit of the merchants, and ſecurity of their commerce, and by this rated impoſt to be reimburſed their charge, and rewarded for their ſervice. This may be collected from the firſt article in the roll, where there is an exception of ſhips laden with merchandizes in Flanders, bound for London, and laden with wool and ſkins at London, or elſewhere within the admiralty of the north, to be unladen at Calais, of which ſhips the ſix-pence per ton aforeſaid was not to be required. But then it follows, *les queux niefs les gardeins de la dicte mer ne ſeront tenus de les conduire ſans eſtre allouez*,—the guardians of the ſaid ſea were not obliged to give convoy to thoſe ſhips, without an allowance in conſideration thereof.

So that upon the whole matter, here is nothing that relates to the dominion of the ſea; for the impoſition upon the ſhips and merchandizes was not *jure coronæ*, in right of the crown, for paſſing over the diſtricts or fiſhing within the royalty of it, but *ratione oneris*, in conſideration of a charge, which ſome perſons ſuſtained; and that by contract, to preſerve and defend the freedom and ſecurity of navigation and commerce. And it was very juſt and reaſonable, that what was undertaken for a common good and benefit, ſhould be ſupported and defrayed by a common charge and contribution. The roll does not ſay, that the impoſt was granted to the King, as an additional revenue to his crown; but it was for the guarders of the ſea, to reimburſe their expence, and recompenſe their ſervice. And the caſe is parallel with this: ſuppoſe the Hamburgers and other Hanſeatics trading to the Streights, who have very ſmall or no convoy of their own, and apprehenſive of the courſes of the rovers of Africa, the Turks and Moors, ſhould contract with the King of France, or others commiſſioned from him, to ſupply them with convoy from the mouth of the Streights, till they are arrived at the reſpective ports whither they are bound, and in conſideration thereof to give ſo much a ton upon every ſhip ſo convoyed. This would have no relation to any ſovereignty in the crown of France, in and over the Mediterranean ſea, but would be a particular contract only a *quid pro quo*, ſomething to be done, and ſomething to be received in conſideration of ſo doing.

There want not examples in hiſtory of thoſe, who have exacted tribute upon all paſſing certain ſeas, adjacent to their territories, and yet not as proprietary lords of thoſe ſeas neither, but only as protectors and defenders of the navigation thereof. Thus the Romans impoſed a tax upon all ſhips ſailing in the Erythræan or Red Sea, towards the maintenance of a maritime force, for the repreſſion of piratical excurſions. And the Athenians did the ſame in the Helleſpont. Thus the duties in the Sound, payable to the Kings of Denmark, began at firſt, not on account of any ſovereignty over that ſea, but becauſe thoſe Kings were at the charge of maintaining continual fires upon the Col and Annot, and floating tons or buoys upon the ſands, as a direction to merchants in that dangerous entrance into the Baltic: for which, was anciently paid them at Cronenburg Caſtle, in the Sound, no more, till new exactions crept in, than a roſe-noble for an empty ſhip, and if laden, a roſe-noble more for her lading. Nor could any refuſe payment, pretending, that he had an able pilot, and needed not the direction of the King's fires: for it is not reaſonable, that the contumacy of one or more particular perſons ſhould fruſtrate or evacuate a public benefit.

In the ſeventh year of King James, in the year 1609, a proclamation was publiſhed of high importance, inhibiting all perſons, of what nation or quality ſoever, not being natural-born ſubjects, from fiſhing upon any the coaſts and ſeas of Great Britain and Ireland, and the iſles adjacent, without firſt obtaining licences from the King, or his commiſſioners, authoriſed in that behalf; and thoſe licences to be renewed yearly. This was the firſt that ever I could meet with of this nature: not that but particular fiſhermen of Dieppe, Calais, Bruges, &c. have ſometimes, both before and ſince, taken licences here in England for their fiſhing: but then they did it, either as an abundant caution, or to gain an indefinite liberty for fiſhing every where, cloſe upon the Engliſh ſhores, and within the friths, bays, and havens, without fear of moleſtation: and they did it *ex proprio motu*, without the privity and knowledge of their ſovereigns; and paid nothing for it to the treaſury of England, only gave fees and gratuities to the ſecretaries, and others, for diſpatch of their licences. But here is a royal edict, or law, by way of premonition to all the neighbouring Princes and States, together with their ſubjects, to take licences of the King, or his commiſſioners, for fiſhing upon any coaſts and ſeas of Great Britain; the number of their ſhips and veſſels, together with their tonnage, to be ſpecified, in order to a rateable compoſition to be paid yearly into the exchequer of England. And King Charles the Firſt, in the twelfth year of his reign, in the year 1636, publiſhed another royal proclamation to the ſame tenor alſo. By which acts, thoſe two Kings kept up the continual claim of the crown of England, to a ſole and appropriate fiſhery in the Britiſh ſeas, and conſequently to the ſovereignty and dominion thereof; but neither of thoſe public edicts obtained, from any of our neighbours, their due and juſt effect. Thus ſtands the caſe of the fiſhery.

And thus I have gone over all the chief branches of the ſovereignty, and have faithfully related the matter of fact, and how the practice is, and has been, betwixt us and our neighbours, in reference to them all; not ſo fully indeed, and amply, as I might, but ſufficiently to my purpoſe, who deſigned not a volume, but an abſtract. There is ſtill one thing behind, concerning the fiſhery, which I ſhall mention, and ſo conclude. It is by way of temperament or relaxation, and yet without renouncing any thing: it is a medium betwixt graſping at all and holding nothing; it is what would greatly accommodate England, if it can be obtained, or if a proper ſeaſon preſented for offering at it: I ſay, a ſeaſon, or fit conjuncture. For what in natural philoſophy, amongſt chymiſts, is a juſt degree of heat, neceſſary to the production of all great and admirable effects, that in politics, amongſt ſtateſmen, is a fit conjuncture. The temperament or expedient, which I mean, is briefly thus: a limited fiſhing; not a licenſed, but a limited one, without licence. This hath both a foundation of ſolid reaſon to ſupport it, and is backed alſo with precedents and authorities, ſufficient to vindicate it from the imputation of a new project. The reaſonableneſs of it may be thus ſhewn. The ſovereignty of any ſea, and the right of the ſole fiſhing in it, are ſo intimately connected, yea, ſo coeſſential one to the other, that he who controverts the one, will infallibly diſpute and opiniaſtre the other; but he who acknowledges one of them, will by a neceſſary conſequence yield both. And yet it is a thing undoubted, and never brought into queſtion by any; but that every Prince, whoſe country adjoins to the ſea, and whoſe ſhores are indented with bays, creeks, havens, and rivers, has ſome portion of the ſea belonging to him in property, as an acceſſion of the land, or appendant to it, or rather incorporated with it, like veins and arteries, integral parts of the ſame body.

King James, in the ſecond year of his reign, in the year 1604, cauſed a ſea chart to be publiſhed, deſcribing all the coaſts round England, by ſtrait lines, drawn from one promontory or foreland to another, and all that was intercepted and included within thoſe lines, was called the King's Chambers and Royal Ports. And in the proclamation publiſhed at the ſame time, and which refers to the ſaid ſea chart, they are called The Places of the King's Dominion and Juriſdiction; and all hoſtilities betwixt foreigners in war one with another, but in amity with England, forbidden within thoſe precincts, Our law alſo makes a conſiderable difference betwixt havens, rivers, creeks, and bays, and the *altum mare*, or high ſea; for the firſt are reckoned *intra corpus comitatus*, as the law phraſe is, parts and members of the counties of England; and all pleas of contract, and other things done there, are triable by verdict, and determinable at common law. But the court of Admiralty holds plea and conuſance of all things done upon the high ſeas, as being out of the body of any county, and conſequently from whence no jury can be returned for trial of iſſues.

If there be no certain ſtandard in nature, whereby to aſcertain the preciſe boundaries of that peculiar marine territory, I am now ſpeaking to, which belongs to every Prince in right of his land; yet, by treaty and agreement, they may eaſily be reduced to certainty. For, as to the judgment and opinion of private perſons, we cannot derive from thence any true meaſure; for though they all agree unanimouſly, that there is ſomething due of right, yet they vary in the *quantum*, or how much. Baldus reckons one hundred miles at ſea, as the diſtrict of the adjacent land. Bodin affirms it for a received law amongſt nations, that the Prince, whoſe country abuts upon the ſea, ſhould have ſixty miles juriſdiction from the ſhore, and that it was ſo adjudged in the caſe of the Duke of Savoy. Another Doctor will tell us, that ſo much of the ſea appertains to the land, as far as a man can ſee from ſhore in a fair day. But this will not ſerve our turn: for if a man may ſee from Dover to Calais, I ſuppoſe the like may be done from Calais to Dover, and whoſe ſhall the ſea be betwixt? Therefore the ſureſt way is, to preſcribe the limits of fiſhing betwixt neighbouring nations by contract, and not by the leſs certain meaſure of territory. For if no bounds be fixed, how many inconveniencies, and what a licentious extravagance, may ſuch a liberty run into? Why may not the Dutch, as formerly they have done, dredge for oyſters upon the coaſts of Eſſex, within the fiſheries of private perſons, and within ſtreams and waters appertaining to particular manors, by grants from the crown? Why may they not fiſh within the mouth of the Thames? Or within our creeks, havens, and rivers, as far as ſalt water flows? Or to the firſt bridge, if they will pleaſe to ſtop there? Is it reaſonable, that there ſhould be no diſtinction, as to fiſhing, between native and alien? Why then do they challenge to themſelves thoſe ſmaller ſeas and inlets within the Vly and Texel, and all other ſtreams, which, breaking in at a ſtrait neck or iſthmus of land, form peninſulas of waters, and, in the nature of ſtanding lakes, are incloſed within the banks of thoſe Low Countries? The States there farm out the fiſhing of the South-ſea or Zuyder, and other ſtreams, to their own people and ſubjects, under the reſervation of a yearly rent to be paid, and conſequently exclude all others from it. I hint theſe things, only to ſhew the reaſonableneſs of a limited fiſhing; and as to the authorities by which it is ſtrengthened, I ſhall touch upon them alſo.

It was anciently covenanted betwixt the crown of Scotland and the Netherlands, that they ſhould not

not fiſh within fourſcore miles from the Scotiſh ſhores. My author is Welwood, a Scotch lawyer, in a little tract of his, which I have read, *De Dominio Maris*, in the third chapter: his words are, *Non poſſum præterire, quod ante ſæculum hoc poſt cruentiſſimam ex occaſionibus maritimis diſcordiam inter Scotos Batavoſque, res in hunc modum compoſita fuit, ut Batavi in poſterum abſtinerent ab Oris Scoticis ad octuaginta ſaltem milliaria.* Here the diſtance from the ſhores of Scotland, which foreigners were to obſerve in their fiſhing, is ſet very large, no leſs than fourſcore miles.

In the ſecond year of King James, commiſſioners were appointed and authoriſed, under the great ſeals of England and Scotland, to treat and conclude an union betwixt the two kingdoms. And in the articles for regulating trade betwixt them, it was, amongſt other things, mutually agreed, that the fiſhing within the friths and bays of Scotland, and in the ſeas within fourteen miles diſtance from the coaſts of that realm, where neither Engliſh nor other ſtrangers have uſed to fiſh, ſhould be reſerved and appropriated to Scotchmen only. And ſo reciprocally on the part of England, Scotchmen to abſtain from fiſhing within the like diſtances off the coaſts of England. But if Engliſh and Scots, who, though the two kingdoms be *ſui juris* and independent one upon another, are tied together in the ſame common bond of allegiance to one and the ſame Prince, be excluded from fiſhing within fourteen miles from each others coaſts, how much more reaſonable is it, that aliens and foreigners ſhould be obliged to keep the ſame diſtances?

King James finding, that his before-mentioned proclamation, in the ſeventh year of his reign, for a licenſed fiſhing, was not ſeconded by a ſuitable compliance on the part of the neighbouring nations, did about nine years after, by way of expedient, propoſe a limited fiſhing inſtead thereof. For thus I find it in a letter from Secretary Naunton to the Lord Carlton, Engliſh ambaſſador at the Hague, bearing date January the twenty-firſt, 1618. He acquaints him, how the King had, by him the ſaid ſecretary, deſired of the commiſſioners of the States, then reſiding at London, that they would write to their ſuperiors, to publiſh a placart, prohibiting any of their ſubjects to fiſh within fourteen miles of his Majeſty's coaſts, that year or any time after, until order be taken by commiſſioners, authoriſed on both ſides, for a final ſettling of the principal buſineſs. And the ſaid ambaſſador was commanded to make the like inſtance and declaration to the States General, in the name of his maſter.

I am apt to believe, this diſtance of fourteen miles was the rather pitched upon, as the regulated meaſure, which had been agreed upon betwixt the commiſſioners of both kingdoms in the ſecond year of the King, as I ſaid before. But I have now done with the authorities; and for the better elucidation of what I have ſaid, ſhall briefly ſum it up into a fictitious article ſuppoſed to be made betwixt England and Holland.

“ To maintain a due diſtinction betwixt natives and foreigners, in fiſhing upon the coaſts of
“ their reſpective ſovereigns; and to prevent the manifold inconveniencies, which occaſionally ariſe
“ by a promiſcuous and unlimited fiſhing; it is mutually covenanted, concluded, and agreed, that
“ the people and ſubjects of the United Netherlands, ſhall henceforth abſtain from fiſhing within
“ any the rivers, friths, havens, or bays of Great Britain and Ireland, or within the diſtance
“ of ——— leagues from any point of land thereof, or of any of the iſles thereto belonging;
“ under the penalty and forfeiture of all the fiſh, that ſhall be found aboard any veſſel doing to the
“ contrary, and of all the nets, utenſils, and other inſtruments of fiſhing. The like diſtances, and
“ under the ſame penalties, to be kept and obſerved by the ſubjects of his Majeſty of Great Britain
“ and Ireland, from any of the coaſts belonging to the United Netherlands. But beyond thoſe
“ precincts and limits, that the people and ſubjects on both ſides be at freedom to uſe and exerciſe
“ fiſhing where they pleaſe, without aſking or taking licences or ſafe conducts for ſo doing, and

“ without

"without the let, hinderance, or moleſtation one of another. Saving always the ancient rights of "the crown of England, and that nothing herein contained be interpreted or extended to any di-"minution or impeachment thereof, but that they remain in the ſame force and virtue, as before "this agreement."

The article is penned indifferently on both ſides, and ſo much the better, becauſe the equality of it is an argument of its equity; yet I could inſtance in ſeveral benefits, which would redound to England from ſuch an article, were it paſſed into an agreement; but they are not proper to be mentioned in this place; and therefore I ſhall here conclude with this brief apology, that what I have written, is for the juſtice and honour of the government, the conſervation of the public peace, the maintenance of an inviolable amity with our allies, and is moſt humbly ſubmitted to better informed judgments.

SECT. II.

Of the Importance and Dignity of Merchants.

HAVING, in the preceding work, ſufficiently diſplayed the immenſe benefits of commerce to mankind, it remains, as it were by way of corollary, briefly to obſerve, that commerce, whether foreign or domeſtic, whether in groſs or by retail, neceſſarily implies the principal and important inſtruments thereof, to be merchants. Doctor Godolphin might well have ſaved himſelf the trouble, in his preface to A View of the Admiralty Juriſdiction, of quoting Baldus, a famous Civilian, in ſaying, what ſurely every one will readily admit to be true, "That the world could not "live without merchants." The firſt and moſt obvious idea of a city, town, or village, is an aſſemblage of people of various conditions, ſeated together for their mutual convenience: which convenience is alone to be ſupplied by the inſtrumentality of merchants. A city or town therefore, or even barely, though in a leſſer degree, a village, is a mere non-entity; excluſive of the aid of merchants: as a country without cities, towns, or villages, creates the idea of a wilderneſs.

In many free ſtates in Europe, their ſovereigns or governors are moſtly either actual merchants themſelves, or at leaſt are deſcended from ſuch, and enjoy the eſtates and dignities acquired by the commerce of their progenitors. Of this laſt-named claſs are likewiſe in England the following noble families, viz.

I. Coventry, Earl of Coventry, deſcended from Sir John Coventry, mercer, Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1425.

II. Brown, Viſcount Montacute, deſcended from Sir Stephen Brown, grocer, and twice Lord Mayor of London, viz. in the years 1438 and 1448.

III. Legge, Earl of Dartmouth, deſcended from Thomas Legge, ſkinner, once Lord Mayor of London, who, according to Collins's Peerage, vol. iii. p. 100. married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick.

IV. Capel, Earl of Eſſex, deſcended from Sir William Capel, draper, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1503.

V. Dormer, Lord Dormer, deſcended from Ralph Dormer, mercer, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1529.

VI. Oſborn, Duke of Leeds, deſcended from Sir Edward Oſborn, cloth-worker, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1583.

VII. Cranfield-Sackville, Duke of Dorſet, deſcended from Sir Lionel Cranfield, a merchant of London, who, for his great abilities, was preferred by King James I. to the high and moſt honourable office of his Lord High Treaſurer, and was by that Prince alſo created Earl of Middleſex; and by his great grandſon King George I. the preſent noble deſcendant was created Duke of Dorſet.

The following peerages are become extinct very lately, viz.

VIII. Rich, Earl of Warwick and Holland, deſcended from Sir Richard Rich, mercer, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1441.

IX. Holles, Duke of Newcaſtle, deſcended from Sir William Holles, Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1539.——☞ The preſent noble Duke of that title, although he writes himſelf Holles-Pelham, as collaterally deſcended from the former, is lineally deſcended, as I have been told, from Sir John Pelham, Lord Treaſurer to King Henry IV.

N. B. There were other peerages, now extinct, whoſe poſſeſſors were deſcended from merchants; as, De la Pole, Earl of Suffolk. Boleyn, Earl of Wiltſhire. Hicks, Viſcount Campden. Cromwell, Earl of Eſſex, &c. And leſt any of the noble families above-named ſhould queſtion the truth of theſe genealogies, though far from being diſhonourable, we ſhall, in our own vindication, acquaint them, that we have faithfully tranſcribed the accounts hereof from an octavo pamphlet in our poſſeſſion, publiſhed ſo lately as the year 1750, entitled, "A Treatiſe on Trade, or the Antiquity and Honour of Commerce."

Many Peers there alſo are, and others lately were, who, though originally created or ennobled from their own eminence in the profeſſion of the law, were, however, deſcended from merchants and eminent traders. Many other perſons might be named, who, though not Peers, were, from merchants, advanced to the dignity of Privy Counſellors, and other high and honourable ſtations, by our Kings. Laſtly, Were we yet further to extend our enquiries into all the inter-marriages of our nobility with the daughters of merchants and eminent traders, in conſequence of which ſo many ſhattered eſtates have been effectually repaired, it would not only take up more room than was intended by this ſhort eſſay; but might poſſibly alſo give offence where none is intended.

SECT. III.

Of the various Cauſes of the Riſe and Increaſe of great and populous Cities.

ALTHOUGH it be true, as we have obſerved in the preceding ſection, that all cities whereever ſituated, and whatever their condition may be, principally and neceſſarily owe their origin and progreſſive ſupport and increaſe to merchants and commerce: yet there is a very conſiderable difference between mere royal or princely cities, and cities advanced to greatneſs by commerce

merce and induſtry alone. The former ſort may be conſidered to be, in a great degree, peopled and ſupported by the reſidence of the ſovereign and nobility,—the national courts of juſtice,—guards and garriſons;—and by thoſe means having many places of public entertainment and diverſion,—ſocieties for the advancement of polite and uſeful knowledge,—many great and elegant palaces, churches, convents, theatres, ſtatues, fountains, columns, pyramids, obeliſks, bridges, hoſpitals, infirmaries, ſchools, libraries, pictures; and, in fine, by every other object that can attract the admiration, feed the fancy, and delight the ſenſes of both the greater and ſmaller people, not only of their own nation, but of men of quality and wealth from other nations; although perhaps without foreign commerce, or much home manufactures. This was eminently the character of ancient Athens, Corinth, and Rome; as it is at preſent, more eminently than any where elſe, of modern Rome, Venice, Florence, Paris, &c.

Such are the qualifications which conſtitute a truly great and magnificent city: and whilſt their reſpective nations continue gradually to increaſe in proſperity and wealth, ſuch a capital city will be conſtantly increaſing in its people, as well as in its decorations and embelliſhments of every kind; as is at preſent ſo viſibly the happy caſe of the ſuperb metropolis of the Britannic empire, wherein many of the before-recited circumſtances, though we cannot ſay all, are conjoined to and with a matchleſs foreign commerce, ſalubrious air and water, an eaſy approach, and a ſufficient plenty of all other good things.

On the other hand, cities arrived at greatneſs, or rather magnitude, merely from their happy ſituation for, and great ſucceſs in commerce and manufactures, (more eſpecially if that riſe has been ſudden) the ornaments, decorations, and other polite embelliſhments of ſuch cities, even though arrived at a great degree of magnitude and population, will uſually be fewer and leſs conſiderable: ſuch places therefore will attract few people to viſit them, but merely on the ſcore of commerce. Such, for inſtance, may in ſome meaſure be ſaid to be the caſe of Peterſburg, the upſtart capital of Ruſſia, deſpotically or compulſively made ſo, on commercial as well as on political conſiderations, within the compaſs of the preſent century; though, in almoſt all other reſpects, moſt diſagreeably ſituated and circumſtanced. Such, we are ſorry to ſay it, is partly the caſe of ſome few of the moſt commercial and populous places in Great Britain, that have chiefly riſen up within the laſt three centuries, whoſe wealth and plenty are apparent in almoſt every countenance, but with little of any thing like embelliſhment and elegance for attracting of ſtrangers to viſit them; and from whence, ſuch as, through accident or neceſſity, have viſited them, we have often known to return with a coarſer character of them than they really deſerved, merely for want of that elegance they had expected in ſuch large, wealthy, and populous places: though from the preſent univerſal diſpoſition to improvements of every kind, the objection now made is continually leſſening. This conſideration properly conſtitutes the very juſt diſtinction which the judicious Botero has made (as we have partly obſerved under the year 1590) between a great city and a large city; a difference as great as there is between a plain and uneducated trader, and an accompliſhed and polite gentleman. Which cities nevertheleſs, though properly to be termed mere mercantile ones, do, in fact, obviouſly contribute much more to national proſperity, though not perhaps ſo much to national fame, than thoſe termed royal or princely cities.

Under the ſame year 1590, in our foregoing work, we gave alſo from Botero, who was an eminent Italian author of the ſixteenth century, a view of the magnitude, &c. of moſt of the capital and principal cities of Chriſtendom, all but thoſe within the Baltic Sea, which that able author ſeemed to think were then ſcarcely worth his regard. But we are ſorry to ſay, that we have not been ſufficiently

ficiently enabled, from modern travellers, to give ſo exact an account as we earneſtly deſired to have done, of the preſent or modern ſtate, in point of commerce and population, of many foreign cities; moſt of thoſe travellers contenting themſelves with tireſome and tedious accounts of their churches, monaſteries, paintings, and palaces, without giving us any thing conſiderable on what ought ever to be eſteemed a moſt eſſential part of ſuch deſcriptions, viz. the mercantile and political ſtate of thoſe cities, *i. e.* the number of their inhabitants—their principal ſtaple manufactures—and whether on the increaſe or on the declenſion; and, in general, the true light in which thoſe cities and countries ſtand in relation to other nations.

Since Botero wrote, about one hundred and ſeventy years ago, we may obſerve many vaſt alterations in the condition of nations, and particularly in their capital cities: thus Venice, then believed to conſiſt of near two hundred thouſand inhabitants, has for ſome time been in a retrograde ſtate; and the ſame of Genoa, and alſo of Prague, the capital of Bohemia, likewiſe in a declining ſtate; as is alſo Liſbon, ſince the Engliſh and Dutch have driven the Portugueſe out of their vaſt Eaſt Indian commerce: whereas, on the other hand, the cities of Milan and Naples have, ſince Botero's days, almoſt doubled the then number of their inhabitants; and London, which, at that time, contained little more than one third part of the then inhabitants of Paris, appears at this day to exceed that proud city, not only in riches, but even in the number of inhabitants. Moreover, the two capital cities of Denmark and Sweden are at this time become ſo conſiderable, not only in point of public edifices and ornaments, but alſo in the number of their inhabitants, as well to merit a place in ſuch enquiries.

Let us now, however, briefly examine the preſent magnitude of the two moſt famous cities of Europe, London and Paris, by what has hitherto been eſteemed the moſt juſt and equitable rule of determining the magnitude of cities, *i. e.* by their annual bills of mortality. And as many authors, who have gone before us on this ſubject, ſeem agreed, that in ſuch great and populous cities there die annually a thirtieth part, or one out of thirty, of their whole inhabitants, we will firſt try that rule, viz. firſt, on a medium of ſix ſucceeding years for the mortality of London.

I. In the year 1755,	buried at London,	21,917	perſons.
1756,	- -	20,872	
1757,	- -	21,313	
1758,	- -	17,576	
1759,	- -	19,604	
1760,	- -	19,830	
	Total,	121,112	
Annual medium of ſix years,	—	20,185	dying yearly at London.
		30	or the thirtieth part of the people.
	Total inhabitants of London,	605,550	by this firſt computation.

But if multiplied by thirty-three, as others conjecture to be the number dying annually in London, or the thirty-third part of its inhabitants,

Then	20,185	
Multiplied by	33	the ſecond rule.
Gives the total inhabitants of London,	666,105	by this ſecond computation.

II. There

II. There died in Paris in the ſix following years, as we had them caſually, and at different times, from the Paris newſpapers, viz.

In the year 1733, - -	17,406	
1750, - -	18,084	
1756, - -	17,236	
1757, - -	17,237	
1758, - -	21,120	
1759, - -	18,446	
Total of ſix years deaths,	109,529	at Paris.
Yearly medium of ſix years at Paris,	18,254	
Multiplied by	30	the loweſt rule.
Total inhabitants of Paris,	547,620	by the ſaid loweſt rule,
Fewer people at Paris than at London,	57,930	by this computation.
The total of people at London, as above,	605,550	by the firſt rule.
But if the medium of the yearly deaths at Paris	18,254	
be multiplied by — — —	33	the ſecond rule,
Then the total inhabitants in Paris, by the ſecond rule,	602,382	
Fewer people in Paris than in London, —	63,723	
The total of people in London, as above, —	666,105	

As by reaſon of ſo many additional hoſpitals for the ſick poor of London, within the laſt thirty years, the yearly mortality bill has ſenſibly decreaſed, whilſt the town has moſt viſibly been increaſing, there are ſome who think that there dies not above one perſon in thirty-five yearly; they therefore reaſonably conclude, that London's inhabitants may now amount to ſeven hundred and ſixty thouſand: whereas many of the deaths in Paris are of the aged religious of both ſexes: yet, ſay they, on account of ſecret murders, &c. at Paris, may not Paris be concluded to contain ſeven hundred thouſand ſouls; and this may probably be nearer the truth than either of the above computations.

I. Theſe ſix years mortality bills of London are copied from the yearly bills publiſhed by the company of London Pariſh Clerks.

II. It is indeed ſtill almoſt the general opinion, that the true annual mortality of London is by no means kept exact by the company of Pariſh Clerks, who are ſaid to omit many deaths in families of different perſuaſions, diſſenting from the eſtabliſhed church.

III. But, without further inſiſting on what we are not properly able to prove, if our accounts of the annual deaths at Paris, which we took from the Paris Gazettes, be exact, it will follow, that, as there are many thouſands of religious or eccleſiaſtical perſons of both ſexes in Paris, who are liable to mortality like other people, and doubtleſs are included in thoſe annual accounts, there muſt needs be many more lay inhabitants in London than in Paris, and conſequently a much ſmaller number of uſeleſs mouths and hands in the former than in the latter city. And thus we have, as impartially as we were able, diſcuſſed the national controverſy (for ſuch it has been called) concerning the magnitude of theſe two illuſtrious metropoliſes, from real facts with regard to London, and, as we ſuppoſe, alſo in reſpect to Paris: in both which cities, we ſhall here but juſt remark, that there are made the fineſt and moſt exquiſite manufactures, of almoſt all kinds, that can be named in the known world, and therefore needleſs, as well as almoſt endleſs, to be enumerated; and with reſpect to the vaſtneſs of the naval commerce of London, enough has been already ſaid, in the body of our work, on that moſt important ſubject.

We have received, from a worthy and judicious Dutch merchant, an exact computation, not long ſince made in Holland, which he ſays was taken by public authority, of the number of inhabitants of the undernamed nineteen cities of the province of Holland, viz.

	Inhabitants.	
Amſterdam,	241,000	Of twenty thouſand ſouls, and upwards.
Leyden,	70,000	
Rotterdam,	56,000	
Haarlem	50,000	
Hague,	38,000	
Delſt,	25,000	
Tergow,	20,000	
Dort,	18,000	Under twenty thouſand inhabitants.
Alkmaar,	15,000	
Hoorn,	12,000	
Enkhuyſen,	11,000	
Gorcum,	6,600	
Schiedam,	8,000	
Brille,	5,000	
Edam,	4,000	
Purmerend,	2,600	
Modenblick,	2,500	
Schoonhoven,	2,500	
Monikendam,	2,000	
Total inhabitants of nineteen towns in the ſingle province of Holland,	589,200	

Amſterdam, as we have ſeen, has had many and conſiderably different computations of the number of its inhabitants, ſome even as high as to three hundred thouſand: yet we are inclined to think, the above computation ſtill comes the neareſt to truth, though made thirty years ago; and the like may be probable of moſt of the other cities and towns of that republic, and probably alſo of many of the cities and towns throughout the reſt of Chriſtendom. Nevertheleſs, we may be frequently miſguided by ſuperficial travellers, who, coming to lye a night or two, or even longer, at a populous place, where ſeeing many public edifices and ſtreets, they two often pronounce at random on this ſubject, or elſe often take the report of others, who, though inhabitants of the place, may be very incompetent judges of ſuch matters. How widely different, for inſtance, do many of the natives of London ſpeak of the magnitude of the place in which they have ſpent their whole lives, for want of due attention, judgment, and obſervation? How vaſtly different, for inſtance, are the accounts of different travellers concerning the magnitude of the famous city of Nurenberg, in Germany, as will be ſeen further in this ſupplement?

THE

POLITICO-COMMERCIAL
GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE:

OR,

COMPENDIOUS AND COMPARATIVE VIEW

OF THE VARIOUS

Productions, Trades, Manufactures, Exportations, Population, and Power,

OF THE SEVERAL

POTENTATES, REPUBLICKS, AND STATES THEREOF:

AND LIKEWISE OF THE

COMMERCE, MAGNITUDE, AND PEOPLE, OF THEIR MOST CONSIDERABLE CITIES AND TOWNS.

Extracted from the beſt modern Accounts thereof; and more particularly from the Engliſh Tranſlation in the Year 1762, *in ſix Quarto Volumes, of the* NEW GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE, *juſt publiſhed, in High Dutch, by* DOCTOR BUSCHING, *Profeſſor of Philoſophy in the Univerſity of Gottingen.*

WITH a more eſpecial regard to the preſent commercial condition, magnitude, and importance of the moſt conſiderable cities and towns of Europe, it may be needful to premiſe,

I. That beſide the fine and judicious diſtinction of Botero, betwixt a *large* city and a *great* city, mentioned in the body of our work under the year 1590, another diſtinction may be equally eſſential, viz. between a great many ſeemingly large cities in Popiſh countries, which nevertheleſs are very thinly inhabited by trading and induſtrious people; and very many Proteſtant cities and towns, which, though ſtanding on much leſs ground, are nevertheleſs crouded with many more traders, manufacturers, and other induſtrious inhabitants. Thus, in Poland, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, and Portugal, many of their larger cities are conſtituted or conſiſt, for the moſt part, with eccleſiaſtical edifices, as cathedral, collegiate, and pariſh churches, large abbeys, convents, nunneries, chapels, chantries; epiſcopal and deanry palaces, and prebendal houſes, with all their extenſive gardens, and other outlets: although, beſide the habitations of their more immediate and numerous dependants, there may be very little to be found therein of any thing like manufactures and commerce.

Such, for inſtance, is the city of Munſter, in Germany, the city of Bourges in France, and many others which might be named. Even in Proteſtant countries, and particularly in our own nation, no adequate judgment can be formed, as elſewhere obſerved of the population, or real magnitude of many places, merely from either their greater or their leſſer number of pariſh churches and chapels: of which, York city, Oxford, Cambridge, &c. on the one hand, and the extenſive liberty of Weſtminſter, Briſtol, Liverpool, Mancheſter, Newcaſtle upon Tyne, Birmingham, Glaſgow, &c. on the other hand, are obvious inſtances.

II. It may alſo be herein further proper to be obſerved, that when, under the deſcription of any particular city or town, no mention ſhall happen to be made of the peculiar trade or manufacture of ſuch place, the reader is naturally to be referred to the account, previouſly exhibited, of the general trade, productions, and manufactures of the country or province under which ſuch town or city is ranked.

RUSSIA.

With reſpect to the commerce of Ruſſia, in general it is allowed to be very advantageous to her; many in our days being of opinion, that her annual exports from St. Peterſburg, amount to four millions of rubles, and that her imports exceed not three million; whereby ſhe gains annually one million of rubles, or two hundred and twenty-five thouſand pounds ſterling, (valuing a ruble at four ſhillings and ſix pence ſterling)—but this is little more than a random conjecture; there being others, who think, that Ruſſia gains conſiderably more on the general annual balance of her commerce; and, that Great Britain is the moſt conſiderable loſer of any nation of Europe, in her trade to Ruſſia.

Ruſſia's productions and exports, in general, are many, and very valuable, viz. furs and peltry of various kinds, red leather, linen, and thread, iron, copper, ſail-cloth, hemp, and flax, pitch and tar, wax, honey, tallow, iſinglaſs, linſeed oil, pot-aſh, ſoap, feathers, train oil, hog's briſtles, muſk, rhubarb and other drugs, timber, and alſo raw ſilk from China and Perſia.

Her foreign commerce with the reſt of Europe is much increaſed ſince her conqueſts from Sweden of Livonia, and eſpecially Ingria, and ſince the eſtabliſhing of her new emporium of Peterſburg, whereby her naval intercourſe with the reſt of Europe is made much more ſhort and eaſy.

Ruſſia carries on a commerce over land, by caravans, to China, chiefly with furs: and they bring back from thence tea, ſilks, cotton, gold, &c.—To Bochara, near the river Oxus, Ruſſia ſends her own merchandize in return for Indian ſilks, curled lamb ſkins, and ready money; and alſo from the annual fair at Samarcand.—She trades to Perſia, by Aſtracan, croſs the Caſpian Sea, for raw and wrought ſilk.

Before her late conqueſts from Sweden, her only port of naval communication with Europe, was Archangel in the White Sea; it is a long and tempeſtuous voyage from moſt parts of Europe. That famous port town is about three Engliſh miles in length, and one in breadth, altogether built of wood, excepting her merchants-exchange, which is a ſtone building. The gradual increaſe of Peterſburg has in ſome meaſure, decreaſed the trade of Archangel, which, however, ſtill exports a great quantity of the before-named merchandize.

In Ruſſian Lapland, there is a ſmall and inconſiderable port, named Kola, in the north latitude of about ſixty-nine degrees, on a bay of the Northern Ocean, ſince the year 1554 frequented annually by ſome few Dutch ſhipping; who bring from thence only ſome peltry, and ſalted and dried ſalmon; but this being in ſo barbarous a country, has little connection with the general commerce of Ruſſia.

Moſcow, a far inland place, moſtly built of timber, excepting the palaces, churches, convents, and the great fortreſs of Cremlin, is by ſome ſtill thought to be the largeſt city of Europe, and particularly ſaid to be ſo by Dr. Buſching; who adds, that it has one thouſand ſix hundred churches and convents, and forty-three public places and ſquares: that its inhabitants conſiſt of ſtateſmen, nobility, and their retinues; of merchants, ſoldiers, prieſts, monks, nuns, and their ſervants; mechanics, carriers, ſledge-drivers, labourers, &c. But that, ſince the building and increaſe of Peterſburg, Moſcow is greatly declined, and therefore is now by him ſuppoſed to be reduced to about one hundred and fifty thouſand people; yet others think it has many more. Buſching makes the merchants-exchange to contain about ſix thouſand fine ſhops. Here is the ſcene of trade, vaſt numbers of merchants and traders, and particularly thoſe to China.—Moſcow's modern condition is indeed hard juſtly to deſcribe; few voyagers giving themſelves the trouble of viſiting it. The grandeur of its many palaces, cathedrals, convents, &c. and the meanneſs of the bulk of the houſes, carrying much ſeeming inconſiſtency, even by Buſching's and other modern accounts; yet, upon the whole, there are probably many more inhabitants in it than the laſt-named, otherwiſe able author, inconſiſtently makes it contain, after telling us, that it is the largeſt city in Europe. In the year 1755, it had an univerſity erected in it. Here is a ſilk manufactory, vaſt artillery magazines, hoſpitals, ſquares, and mercantile ſtorehouſes, &c. Within the circle of Moſcow ſtand abundance of towns.——The following conſiderable places are in Ruſſia, viz. Tula, a trading city on the river Upa, and contains one hundred and forty-four churches and convents. Here are great quantities of fire-arms and Ruſſia leather made.—Lower Novogrod lies on the Volga: its ſhops are richly furniſhed with all ſorts of foreign and native merchandize.—Rezan, formerly a celebrated place, is much decayed, from having been deſtroyed by the Tartars about two hundred years ago.—Smolenſko, a large town on the Dnieper, has conſiderable commerce, both by land and river carriage.—Kiow, the capital of the Don-Caſſocks, ſtands likewiſe on the Dnieper, and is a large irregular city filled with churches, convents, ſhops, and tradeſmen's houſes.—Woronitz, ſtanding on a river running into the river Don, is a large and populous place. It is here that Peter the Great firſt made a large dock-yard for ſhip-building, in order to obtain a naval ſovereignty on the Euxine or Black Sea: but, although he failed therein, and was afterwards obliged to yield up to the Turks, Azof, or Azow, near the mouth of the great river Don, and alſo Taganrok, on the Palus Mæotis, whereby he was precluded from the Black Sea; yet Woronitz. or Veronitz, is ſaid to be ſtill a place of conſiderable trade, by means of the ſaid river Don.—Novogrodweliki, or Great Novogrod, is an ancient, large, and celebrated city on the navigable river Wolcow, juſt where it runs out of the Ilmen Lake, and afterwards diſembogues into the Finland Gulph; it was a moſt eminent ſtaple and emporium of the Hans-Towns, till the year 1390, as related in our work under that year, but is now much decayed. Yet it is ſaid the beſt red Ruſſia leather is ſtill manufactured here.—Pleſcow, on the river Welika, is ſaid to be a place of conſiderable trade.—Twer, a large town on both ſides of the river Volga, has ſeventy churches and convents, and carries on a conſiderable trade in corn.

☞ There are vaſt deſarts in Ruſſia, eſpecially in its northern and north-eaſtern provinces; and in many parts of it the people are ſtill Pagans. Not one-third of the country is ſufficiently peopled, nor cultivated: ſo that, if there be nine or ten millions of people in all the more ancient empire of Ruſſia, as it ſtood before the conqueſts made in the former part of this eighteenth century, it is probably as much as can be reaſonably computed.

Ruſſia's moſt important conqueſts from Sweden by Peter the Great, are, firſt, the fine and well cultivated country of Livonia, containing many good towns, villages, and farms: but as the commercial part of Geography is ſolely our preſent province, we ſhall confine our enquiries to ſuch places as are more immediately connected therewith.

Livonia, or Liefland, (including Lettenland and Eſthonia) affords all the neceſſaries of life in great plenty, being moſtly a fertile ſoil; and in a plentiful year exports many thouſand laſts of rye and barley to Holland, Spain, and other parts, and is therefore ſtiled the granary of the north; though Poland ſurely with more reaſon and eminence merits that character. It has great plenty of horned cattle and horſes, but the wool of their ſheep is ſaid to be ſo coarſe as to reſemble goats-hair. From hence immenſe quantities of flax, excellent hemp, uſually called Riga rine hemp, linſeed, leather, and ſkins are exported, by ſhips from Britain, Holland, France, and other parts. Yet, from the many cruel wars, and the devaſtation of ſo many of their towns and villages, it is thinner of people than from ſo large and fine a province would otherwiſe be expected.

Riga, is ſituated on the river Duna, or Dwina, near the Baltic Sea, and has long been famed for commerce and opulence, having handſome houſes of ſtone; and by means of an excellent harbour, carries on a great trade of exportation of hemp, flax, ſhip and houſe timber, naval ſtores, iron, cordage, corn, furs, &c. to the above-named countries, ſome think, in ſummer, by about five hundred ſhips, and to and from Ruſſia by ſledges in winter. It is well fortified, contains ſix Lutheran churches, and is a reaſonably large city; though we have not met with any computation of the exact number of its inhabitants.

Revel is a ſtrong and opulent city on the Baltic ſhore, a place of conſiderable commerce, much after the manner of Riga. It is the capital of that part of Livonia called Eſthonia. Here a part of the Ruſſian fleet is uſually ſtationed.

Narva ſtands on a river of the ſame name, diſemboguing into the gulph of Finland; and, though not large, it carries on a naval and land commerce of the like kind with Riga.

Secondly, The conqueſt of Ingria, or Ingermanland, adjoining to Livonia, or the government of Peterſburg, though not ſo good a country as Livonia, contains the following places, viz.

Cronſtadt, built by the Czar Peter the Great, on a ſmall iſland, eight leagues by water from Peterſburg. Its people conſiſt of about twenty thouſand, of burghers, ſailors, and ſoldiers. It is the principal ſtation for the moſt part of the Ruſſian navy, and is therefore made very ſtrong.

Peterſburg, in latitude fifty-nine degrees, fifty-ſeven minutes, the uſual reſidence of the Ruſſian court, ſtate-offices, &c.—Till the year 1703, there were only two ſmall fiſhing huts on the wateriſh and ſwampy ſpot where this great city now ſtands, on both ſides the river Neva, and conſequently in both provinces of Ingria and Carelia, between the bottom of the Finland Gulph and the Lake Ladoga; part of this city is alſo built on ſeveral ſmall iſlands formed by the branches of the river Neva, ſo as to appear like ſeveral diſtinct towns rather than one ſingle city. De Dieu, the Dutch reſident, wrote to his maſters concerning the magnitude of this city, in the year 1721, which he then probably exaggerated. Mr. Salmon's Modern Gazetteer ſays, there were no leſs than ſixty thouſand houſes built within three or four years after the foundation was laid, if he has not, through miſtake, added a cypher too much. Dr. Buſching's contains about eight thouſand houſes; of which number about ſix hundred are of ſtone, and the reſt are of timber; and it may contain above one hundred thouſand people. It has neither gates nor walls; only in the middle of the city there is a ſtrong and beautiful fort. The admiralty and dock-yards are alſo fortified.

Its extenſive commerce, reſpecting all the before-named commodities of Ruſſia, renders it of great importance; a vaſt number of foreign ſhipping frequenting it in ſummer, as a mart for all Ruſſian

ſian merchandize; and in winter three thouſand ſledges, each drawn by one horſe, are employed for paſſengers in its ſtreets. There are about twenty Ruſſian churches, four Lutheran churches for the Germans, and ſeveral Calviniſt ones for the French and other Proteſtants, and ſome alſo for Roman Catholics. It has an univerſity, ſeveral academies, hoſpitals, convents, &c.

Thirdly, In Carelia, alſo conquered by the great Peter, ſtands the town of Wiburg, its capital, formerly deemed the bulwark of Sweden on the ſide of Ruſſia. It is ſituated on the Gulph of Finland, and carries on a conſiderable foreign trade in tar, and ſundry ſorts of timber, &c.

Weſt of Livonia lies the Duchy of Courland, which, with Samogitia and Semigallia, properly, is ſubject to its own Dukes; though too much under the influence of Poland, or elſe of Ruſſia, but the latter more eſpecially of late years. Its commodities are much the ſame as thoſe of Livonia.—Mittau, the capital, and the uſual reſidence of its Prince, on the river Aa, is a pretty extenſive town, of about twelve thouſand inhabitants; having two Lutheran churches, one Calviniſt church, and a Popiſh one, and affords much the ſame merchandize as Livonia for exportation.—Libau, a city and port of good trade on the Baltic ſhore, having one Lutheran and one Popiſh church, and two ſchools. It conſiſts entirely of wooden houſes. Dr. Buſching thinks that annually above one hundred and fifty ſhips uſually arrive at Libau, to load pot-aſh, goat-ſkins, timber, hemp, flax, and other naval ſtores, linſeed, and other bulky merchandize.

BRANDENBURGH PRUSSIA.

Weſt of Courland lies Brandenburgh Pruſſia, or the kingdom of Pruſſia. Its principal commodities for commerce are, corn and buck-wheat, in great quantities, hemp and flax, pitch, pot-aſh, wax, honey, ſturgeon, hops, pit-coal, amber, ſeeds of flax and hemp, caviare, tallow, hogs-briſtles, and timber of many kinds. The inhabitants of this kingdom were, by Dr. Buſching, computed to amount to ſix hundred and thirty-five thouſand nine hundred and ninety-eight perſons capable of bearing arms: and if ſo, it muſt then be more populous than is generally imagined.—Since the year 1719, it is computed that about thirty-four thouſand coloniſts have removed thitherward from France, Switzerland, and Germany; of which number ſeventeen thouſand were Saltzburgers.—Theſe emigrants have built four hundred ſmall villages, eleven towns, eighty-ſix ſeats, and fifty new churches, and have founded one thouſand village ſchools, chiefly in that part of the country named Little Lithuania. That their manufactures are continually increaſing, viz. glaſs, iron-works, paper, gunpowder, copper and braſs mills; manufactures of cloth, camblet, linen, ſilk, ſtockings, &c. That the King of Pruſſia has conſtituted a board of commerce and navigation, having the cognizance of all caſes relative to trade and commerce.

Koningſberg, its capital city, is ſituated on the river Pregel, a large and beautiful city, ſeven miles in circumference, containing about three thouſand eight hundred houſes, and ſixty thouſand people: by which computation of Dr. Buſching, there muſt be very near ſixteen perſons, on an average, in every houſe. Koningſberg has ever made a conſiderable figure in commerce and ſhipping, its river being navigable for ſhips, of which four hundred and ninety-three foreign ones arrived here in the year 1752, beſides two hundred and ninety-eight coaſters; and that three hundred and ſeventy-three floats of timber were in the compaſs of that year brought down the Pregel; of which ſee more in the body of this work, under the year 1749.

Pillau, near Koningſberg, is a ſtrong city, and has a fine harbour, famous for the beſt ſturgeon, from the roe of which caviare is made. Veſſels of the greateſt burthen are here cleared and take in

their

their ladings, which have not water enough in the Friſchaf to carry them up to Koningſberg. In the year 1720, King Frederick William induced twenty thouſand Proteſtant Switzers, French, Palatines, and Franconians, to ſettle in Pruſſia, at the expence, ſays Dr. Buſching, of five millions of rixdollars: and in the year 1732, three hundred and fifty thouſand dollars were further diſtributed to a freſh colony of twelve thouſand five hundred Saltzburgers; by which, and ſimilar wiſe and ſalutary meaſures, Pruſſia has been well peopled and cultivated, ſo as in length of time to have made ample returns to his Majeſty for the ſaid expence.

Memel is a well fortified trading ſea-port, of above four hundred houſes; to which, in the year 1752, ſeventy ſhips arrived, and ſixty-nine ſailed to foreign parts; whither they carried, and ſtill annually carry great quantities of flax, hemp, linen, thread, and linſeed.

Tilſit, an inland town, is, next to Koningſberg, the largeſt and moſt opulent of this kingdom, carrying on to Koningſberg the greateſt trade in thoſe commodities; having about ſix hundred houſes and ſeven thouſand inhabitants, ſays Dr. Buſching, being near twelve perſons to each houſe. And Inſterburg, on the Pregel, contains three hundred and fifty houſes, and three thouſand inhabitants, having a granary and ſalt-factory.

POLAND, LITHUANIA, and POLISH PRUSSIA.

The ſoil of theſe three countries, ſays Dr. Buſching, and many others, is ſo exceeding fertile, and yields ſuch plenty of grain, that near four thouſand veſſels and floats, moſtly laden with corn, come annually down the Viſtula to Dantzick, from Podolia, Volhinia, the Ukraine, and from other parts of Great and Little Poland. So that their harveſts make ample amends for the ſuperior labour which agriculture requires.

Poland, properly ſpeaking, has not any manufactures of her own; all her merchandize being exported raw or unwrought, to her great ſhame. Eccleſiaſtical bigotry, as will ever be the caſe every where, is of infinite detriment to her commerce. And, maugre all her natural advantages, ſhe is conſtantly ſinking deeper into poverty. Poland, however, exports grain of all kinds, flax, hemp, linſeed, hops, honey, wax, tallow, hides, leather dreſſed after the Ruſſian manner, pitch, pot-aſh, maſts, ſhip and houſe timber, horned cattle, horſes, &c. All which, nevertheleſs, are greatly overbalanced by her imports. Poland is ſaid to have two million of Jews in her villages alone, excluſive of their great numbers in cities and towns, who carry on the bulk of her commerce; whilſt her clergy are poſſeſſed of two-thirds of her lands and revenues.

1. Warſaw, on the river Viſtula, lying almoſt in the centre of Poland, is the royal reſidence.— It has ſeveral elegant ſtone buildings and palaces, many fine churches and convents, but little of any thing like commerce.

2. Cracow, its capital, is the largeſt and beſt built city in Poland, ſtands alſo on the Viſtula, with an univerſity. Yet, although it has rich ſalt-mines in its vicinity, its commerce is very inconſiderable; and, as Morery and Collier juſtly remark, it is, from various cauſes, a declining city. It is ſaid to have no fewer than fifty churches and convents.

3. Lemberg is a large city, the capital of Red Ruſſia: but whence the opulence which ſome authors pretend it to be poſſeſſed of proceeds, we ſhall not undertake to find out.

4. Kaminiec, the capital of Podolia, the beſt frontier fortification of Poland, on the ſide of Turkey; but, poſſibly for that reaſon, it cannot thrive in commerce.

1. Of Lithuania, Wilna is the capital city. It is very large, but has often been deſtroyed by fire; yet its inhabitants have ſome conſiderable inland trade on its navigable river of the ſame name, running

ning into the Baltic Sea, whereby they ſend their merchandize as far as Koningſberg. Yet its trade is ſaid to be moſtly managed by foreigners, its natives being poor and lazy. Its private houſes are generally of timber, but its public ones are of ſtone or brick, ſuch as its churches and convents, both of the Roman and Greek communion, and alſo thoſe of the nobility.

2. Grodno is alſo a large place, and the next beſt to Wilna, and has alſo a good inland trade.

3. 4. Mohilow is a handſome trading town, on the river Nieper; as is alſo Witepſk, a fortified inland trading town, on the Duna.

The famous city of Dantzic is the capital of that part of Poliſh Pruſſia named Pomerania, and alſo of the whole province; ſituated on the river Viſtula, about four Engliſh miles before it falls into the Baltic Sea. It is ſtill a moſt eminent commercial city, although it ſeems to be ſomewhat paſt its meridian glory, which was probably about the time that the Preſident De Thou wrote his much eſteemed Hiſtoria ſui Temporis; wherein, under the year 1607, he ſo highly celebrates its commerce and grandeur. It is a republic, with a ſmall adjacent territory about forty miles round it, under the protection of the King and Republic of Poland. Its magiſtracy and the majority of its inhabitants are Lutherans, although the Romaniſts and Calviniſts be equally tolerated in it. It is large, rich, beautiful, and populous, having twenty-ſix pariſhes, with many convents, hoſpitals, &c. The older authors make her inhabitants amount to two hundred thouſand in number; but later computations fall very conſiderably ſhort of it, as appears by its annual bill of mortality exhibited by Doctor Buſching, who tells us, that in the year 1752 there died there but one thouſand eight hundred and forty-ſix perſons. Its own ſhipping is numerous, but the foreign ſhips conſtantly reſorting to it are more ſo, whereof one thouſand and fourteen arrived there in the ſaid year 1752: in which year alſo one thouſand two hundred and eighty-eight Poliſh veſſels came down the Viſtula, chiefly laden with corn, for its matchleſs granaries; from whence that grain is diſtributed to many foreign nations, Poland being juſtly deemed the greateſt magazine of corn in all Europe, and Dantzic the greateſt port for diſtributing it every where: beſide which, Dantzic exports great quantities of naval ſtores, as oak plank, deal, pitch and tar, maſts, cordage, hemp and flax; alſo tallow, hides, furs, honey, wax, ſturgeon, amber, hops, iron, copper, lead, glaſs, earthen ware, ſaltpetre, pot aſh, linen, fine diſtilled ſtrong waters, ſalt, opium, vitriol, vermilion, beer, &c. Dr. Buſching affirms, that it appears from ancient records, as early as the year 997, "That Dantzic was a large commercial city, and not a village or inconſiderable town, as ſome pretend." Vide its foundation, as exhibited in the body of our work, under the year 1169.

Thorn, higher up on the Viſtula, is deemed the moſt ancient town of either of the Pruſſias, and, next to Dantzic, is the faireſt and largeſt one of Poliſh Pruſſia. By means of Thorn all the merchandize of Poland is conveyed down the Viſtula to Dantzic. The bulk of its inhabitants are Lutherans, who have ſeveral churches, and alſo the magiſtracy and univerſity. The Romaniſts have alſo ſome churches, convents, and a Jeſuits college. Yet Thorn is conſiderably decayed in point of commerce, compared to what it was in elder times.

Elbing is the next beſt town in Poliſh Pruſſia, ſtanding on a river of the ſame name, running into a bay of the Baltic, called the Friſch-haf. It is a large and ſtrong place, of conſiderable trade, having nine Lutheran churches, one large Popiſh one, a Calviniſt and Mennonite place of worſhip. Its trade is much in the manner of thoſe of Brandenburg Pruſſia, viz. naval ſtores, hemp, flax, timber, pot aſh, &c.

☞ Theſe three cities laſt mentioned are called the three great towns of Poliſh Pruſſia; and, not longer enduring the tyranny of the Teutonic Knights, they, in the year 1454, revolted from them, and put themſelves under the immediate protection of Poland, and ſo they remain to the preſent

time;

time; and for that reaſon they enjoy greater privileges than any other towns whatever, both in reſpect to freedom and commerce; and indeed are all that, in a commercial ſenſe, are of any great importance to Poliſh Pruſſia.

SWEDEN.

Sweden, although in general it be very mountainous and rocky, affords nevertheleſs, many tracts of level lands proper for agriculture. Of all its provinces Gothland produces the moſt grain, viz. wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas and beans. Sweden alſo, according to Dr. Buſching, has chryſtals, amethyſts, topaſes, porphyry, lapis lazuli, agate, cornelian, marble, and other foſſils. But the bulk of Sweden's wealth proceeds from her mines of ſilver, copper, lead and iron; of this laſt-named metal there are reckoned four hundred and fifty forges, hammering-mills and ſmelting-houſes. That author tells us, they have a kind of a gold mine, which, from the year 1741 to 1747, produced two thouſand three hundred and ninety-eight gold ducats, each worth nine ſhillings and fourpence ſterling; a poor produce truly! He thinks, that the produce of her iron mines conſtitutes two-thirds of the national revenue. Some have reckoned the whole number of people to be three millions; but others, not above two millions. A ſmall number this, for ſo vaſt an extent of country! Some of its pariſhes are as extenſive as the entire province of Holland, though ſcarcely containing ſeventy farms, with perhaps not ſo many wretched cottages as there are towns in that opulent province! The bulk of the Swediſh commonalty ſubſiſt by agriculture, mining, grazing, hunting, and fiſhing. Their materials for traffic are the bulky and uſeful commodities of maſts, beams, deal-boards, and other ſorts of timber for ſhipping; tar, pitch, bark of trees, pot-aſh, wooden utenſils, hides, flax, hemp, peltry, furs, copper, lead, iron, cordage, and fiſh.

A few centuries backward Sweden had no manufactures; and in thoſe times the Hans-towns exported from Sweden the very crude ore of their copper and iron, which they refined, and manufactured into various utenſils and tools, which they ſold again to the Swedes. The inhabitants of their coaſts were all fiſhermen; and their towns had no artificers. In the reign of their King Guſtavus the Firſt, ſurnamed Vaſa, who reigned from the year 1523 to 1559, the Swedes firſt began to work their metals and wood at home; and about the middle of the ſeventeenth century they began to ſet up ſundry kinds of manufactures, by the help of Hollanders and Flemings, viz. glaſs, ſtarch, tin, woollen, ſilk, ſoap, leather dreſſing, and ſaw mills. They had no bookſellers till the year 1647. They have ſince had ſugar baking, tobacco plantations, and manufactures of ſail-cloth, cotton, fuſtian, and other ſtuffs; of linen, alum, brimſtone, paper mills and gunpowder mills; vaſt quantities of copper, braſs, ſteel, and iron, are now wrought in Sweden. They have alſo founderies for cannon, forgeries for fire arms and anchors, armories, wire and flatting mills: mills alſo for fulling, and for boring, ſtamping, &c. Of late alſo they build many ſhips.

They have certain towns which are allowed to import and export merchandize in their own ſhips; and theſe are termed ſtaple towns, being twenty-four in number: but the other towns, which, though near or even upon the ſea coaſt, have no foreign commerce, and are therefore called land towns. Others are termed mine towns, as belonging to ſome mine diſtrict.

By a report from their Board of Trade to the diet of the kingdom, in the year 1752, it appears, that their commerce had been conſiderably increaſed of late years, and that their manufactures were alſo conſiderably improved, to the further employing of their people, and leſſening the importation of foreign merchandize; moſt part of which is, moreover, imported in Swediſh ſhipping, which alſo are the chief exporters of the home products and manufactures. Yet, upon the whole, Dr.

Buſching thinks, that the Swediſh imports do ſtill in value exceed their exports; chiefly occaſioned by the very neceſſary importation of corn and other proviſions, which might be much leſſened, if the Swedes would more aſſiduouſly apply to the increaſe of agriculture and the fiſhery.

The chief ſtaple towns of Sweden are Stockholm and Gottenburg. We ſhall treat of them as they lie, from the weſt to the eaſtward.

I. Gottenburg is a fortified modern built town, the uſual ſtation of their Eaſt India ſhipping; and is the principal and moſt opulent place in Sweden next after Stockholm. It contains about thirteen thouſand inhabitants, is neatly built, and has ſeveral quays and docks, and a college of admiralty, and has alſo a ſquadron of the royal navy uſually ſtationed there. It is well frequented by merchant ſhips, ſo much the more as it lies without the Sound, and is therefore free from that toll.

II. Carleſcroon, built on a little iſle on the Baltic, joined to the continent by a long bridge. It is a ſtrong town, has a good harbour, and is therefore the uſual ſtation of moſt of the navy royal. It conſiſts of five thouſand inhabitants; which, as towns generally go in Sweden, is deemed a very conſiderable and important place; has a royal dock yard, royal ſtore houſes, &c.

III. Stockholm, in north latitude fifty-nine degrees, twenty minutes; the capital of the kingdom, ſtands partly on iſlands and partly on peninſulas. It is the reſidence of the court, of the college of commerce, of the national bank, the fund whereof, according to Dr. Buſching, conſiſts of about ſix millions of ſilver dollars, of each one ſhilling and ſix-pence andtwo-thirds ſterling, in all four hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-ſix pounds thirteen ſhillings and four-pence ſterling, if he was rightly informed, beſide current bills, to the amount of ſeventy millions. Which bank has been of great utility to the crown and kingdom, by advancing conſiderable ſums for the ſervice of the public. Here is an inſurance-office, and a Levant Company. It contains twenty pariſh churches, in what is called the city alone, and above five thouſand houſes, moſt of which ſtand on piles, though entirely built with ſtone, and are generally four or five ſtories high, ſome of which are covered with iron or elſe with copper plates, as others are with tiles. Beſide theſe, there are a great number of timber houſes in the ſuburbs. And the number of inhabitants who pay taxes is computed to amount to ſixty thouſand. The Danes themſelves acknowledge this city to be ſomething larger than their own capital of Copenhagen, ſo that Stockholm may be reaſonably ſuppoſed to contain one hundred thouſand people. Here indeed is carried on the moſt part of the trade of the kingdom, which well accounts for its magnitude. Here alſo are its navy and admiralty offices, the royal arſenal and dock yards; alſo a royal academy of ſciences, one for military architecture, and one for painting and ſculpture,—a college of phyſicians,—an inſurance office from fire,—and a cuſtom-houſe. Her foreign and domeſtic commerce is very conſiderable: here is an excellent harbour, where the largeſt ſhips may lie cloſe to the houſes; yet, by reaſon of certain rocks, its entrance is ſomewhat difficult, though the ſociety of pilots ſupplies that inconveniency. Here are ſugar houſes, glaſs houſes, manufactures of porcelain, woollen, ſilk, cotton, canvas, parchment. In her docks are many ſhips conſtantly built. The principal exports from hence are, copper and iron in great abundance, ſteel, braſs, latten wire, iron and braſs cannon, maſts, planks of oak and deal, hemp, tallow, honey and wax, hides and furs.

IV. Upſal is a very ancient and conſiderable large city, with an univerſity. It was anciently the principal reſidence of the ſovereigns of Sweden. All its buildings, however, are of wood, the cathedral and a few ſtone houſes excepted. It has three churches: which is all we can ſay about it, as it is no maritime place.

V. Gefle, a ſea port, on the weſt ſide of the gulph of Bothnia, is a populous town, and carries on a very advantageous trade, with many ſhips. It has a dock for ſhipping, a cuſtom-honſe, an arſenal or magazine, a gymnaſium, or ſeminary for youth, a caſtle, and an hoſpital. Yet Dr. Buſching thinks, that two-thirds of its people are fiſhermen; but the moſt principal are traders and manufacturers, he does not, however, tell us what they deal in; though probably it is in timber, metals, hemp, and peltry.

Abo is a ſea port, the capital of the great dutchy of Finland, ſeated at the point of the angle formed by the gulphs of Bothnia and Finland, and the moſt conſiderable place in that dutchy. It has a caſtle and a commodious harbour, and carries on a briſk trade in linen, corn, proviſions, and timber.

Of the long-ſince united Kingdoms of DENMARK and NORWAY.

Although in the laſt century there were ſcarce any manufactures carried on in Denmark, (which were originally introduced, ſays Buſching, ſo late as King Frederic IV. who died in the year 1730, and by his ſon King Chriſtian VI. who died in the year 1746,) yet there are now artiſts of extraordinary ſkill at Copenhagen; and at preſent every branch of the mechanical arts is well executed in Denmark. Gold and ſilver lace, ſilk ſtuffs and velvets, woollen cloths and ſtuffs, ſtockings, tapeſtry, hats, baſtard and genuine Porcelain, fire arms, paper and copper mills, iron wares, one ſilk and two cotton printing houſes; with manufactures alſo of ſoap, ſteel, ſtarch, glue, lacker, ſugar, tobacco, &c. The lace of Jondern, and the gloves of Randern and Odenſee, are known to be excellent in their kinds. No foreign manufactures are allowed to be imported into Denmark; and ſince the year 1736, the wearing of jewels, gold and ſilver ſtuffs, and foreign lace, have alſo been prohibited. In the year 1738, a general warehouſe was opened at the exchange in Copenhagen, to which manufacturers bring all the wares which they cannot diſpoſe of in other towns, and are paid ready money for them. And from this warehouſe the goods are delivered out on credit to retailers. King Frederic IV. who began his reign in the year 1699, may be deemed the real founder of the Daniſh commerce; the ſtrict application to which partly appears by the great number of their ſhips annually paſſing the Sound; thoſe of the year 1752, amounting to eight hundred and fifty ſail; and partly, alſo, from the ſeveral opulent companies which have from time to time been eſtabliſhed at Copenhagen. The principal of theſe is the Royal Aſiatic Company, firſt erected in the year 1716, which trades to Tranquebar, on the coaſt of Coromandel, and alſo to China. Here our author, Dr. Buſching, was probably ignorant, that the Danes have been ſettled in the ſaid fort of Tranquebar ever ſince the year 1617, as in the body of our work under that year.

In the year 1747, there was a general trading company erected by charter, for trading to Spain, France, the Mediterranean, the Baltic, and alſo to Greenland for whale fiſhing. The incorporated Iceland and Finmark Company have monopolized the trade to thoſe two countries to the year 1771. In Denmark, ſays our ſaid author, the imports always exceed their exports; but in Norway it is quite the reverſe. In the Aſſignation, Exchange, or Loan Bank, at Copenhagen, eſtabliſhed in the year 1736, its bank notes are drawn for one hundred, fifty, and ten rixdollars, and paſs in all the King's dominions for current ſpecie: their capital ſtock being five hundred thouſand rixdollars, each worth four ſhillings and ſix-pence ſterling. They lend out money, not under one hundred rixdollars, at four per cent. intereſt, on depoſiting a ſufficient pledge, (in this reſembling the royal bank of Edinburg, and with much the ſame capital ſtock.) At Copenhagen there is an inſurance office for ſhips; the number of which, coming annually into that port, is ſo very conſiderable, according to Dr. Buſching, that above three thouſand veſſels, great and ſmall, laden with all kinds of merchandize, more eſpecially proviſions, timber, and materials for building, were entered at their cuſtom-houſe in the year 1752. Here we may venture to preſume, that at leaſt three parts in four of that number muſt have been what we call, at London, ſmall craft, or poſſibly many of them mere open boats.

The preſent Daniſh fleet conſiſts of thirty-four ſhips of the line, ſixteen frigates, and about fifty gallies; and their ſeamen about four thouſand four hundred: but the number of regiſtered ſeamen, with which, on any emergency, their fleet may be manned, is about twenty-four thouſand.

I. Copenhagen, the capital city, on the fine iſland of Zealand, makes a magnificent appearance at a diſtance. It is very ſtrong, contains four royal caſtles or forts, ten pariſh churches, and nine other churches of Calviniſts and other tolerated perſuaſions, both French and Dutch, and ſundry good hoſpitals. There is a conſiderable number of public and private palaces, above four thouſand burghers houſes, ſeveral of which are inhabited by ten or more families; eleven markets or public areas or ſquares, one hundred and eighty-ſix ſtreets, and according to ſome near one hundred thouſand inhabitants. Since the year 1746, its annual bills of births have amounted to at leaſt two thouſand five hundred and ninety-two, and in ſome years two thouſand eight hundred and thirteen perſons; and of burials, from two thouſand five hundred and ninety-four to three thouſand three hundred and eighty-ſix; (which pretty well anſwers to our uſual computation of one out of thirty-three dying annually in healthy years). Its principal ſtreets are built of brick, but the lanes are moſtly of timber; they are illuminated with lanterns, and th city may be deemed one of the moſt beautiful and magnificent places in Europe. My Lord Moleſworth, about ſixty years ago, reckoned it nearly equal to our city of Briſtol. Copenhagen has an univerſity: it has one of the fineſt harbours in Europe; and although it admits of but one ſhip to enter it at a time, it is, however, capable of containing five hundred. There are canals in ſeveral of its ſtreets, as in Holland and Hamburg, for ſhips to lie cloſe to the houſes. Its naval arſenal far exceeds that of Venice. Its trade is conſiderably increaſed of late years. In it are many manufactories of ſilk and woollen ſtuffs and cloths, fine linen, gold and ſilver lace, porcelain, &c. From hence, and from other Daniſh ports, they export horſes, wheat, barley, rye, butter, tallow, ſtock-fiſh, train-oil, pitch and tar, iron and timber; beſide great numbers of horned cattle, vended to Holland and other parts.

II. Helſinore is a town of ſome conſiderable commerce: here is paid the toll for ſhips paſſing the famous Sound, at its royal caſtle of Kronenburgh: at Helſinore all nations trading into the Baltic have, for that end, their conſuls. It is the beſt town in the iſle of Zealand, next to Copenhagen.

III. Roeſkild, in the ſame iſland, was once the capital of Denmark, and is ſaid to have been anciently of ſuch magnitude, as to have contained twenty-ſeven churches and convents within its walls; but ſince the reformation of religion, and the increaſe of Copenhagen, it is become a mean place.

IN THE GREAT PENINSULA OF JUTLAND.

I. Aalburg, in North Jutland, is a large, populous, and ancient city, and, next to Copenhagen, is the moſt opulent and beſt built one of the of the whole kingdom. Here is a merchants exchange, and a ſafe harbour, from whence are exported great quantities of herring, grain, fire-arms, ſaddles, and gloves.

II. Wiburg has three pariſh churches, and twenty-eight ſtreets and lanes, yet was anciently more conſiderable than at preſent.

III. In South Jutland, or the Dutchy of Sleſwick, is the town of Appenrade, one of the beſt and moſt flouriſhing of that country. It ſtands on a bay of the Baltic: is noted for ſhip-building, and a conſiderable trade.

NORWAY,

WITH THE ISLES OF FERROE AND ICELAND, AND THE COUNTRY OF GRONELAND.

Norway is for the moſt part a rocky, mountainous, and barren country; though with here and there ſeveral fertile parts. Its ſcarcity of bread-corn, is in ſome meaſure compenſated by its immenſe quantities of excellent timber, chiefly of the fir and pine kinds; which they export to many parts of Europe in ſuch quantities, that the fir-timber alone is ſaid to bring in a million of rix-dollars annually, viz. for maſts, beams, balks, and deal boards, with other houſe and ſhip timber. In other parts, as in the diſtricts of Bergen and Drontheim, they export vaſt quantities of ſalted fiſh in barrels, and alſo cod, ſplit and dried in their cold air, merely without any ſalt, called ſtock-fiſh; alſo pickled and dried ſalmon, much train oil, or whale oil; immenſe quantities of marble; alſo touchſtone, alabaſter, ſlate, mill ſtones, agate, and jaſper. They have alſo pearl-fiſheries, two ſilver mines, five copper mines, and fifteen very profitable iron mines, with ſome lead and alum mines. Yet they have not ſalt enough of their own produce to ſupply their large fiſheries.

Their beſt cities and towns are,

I. Chriſtiana, the capital and beſt city of the kingdom: it is regularly built at the bottom of an inlet or bay: is of a conſiderable extent, and carries on a great trade.

2. Kongberg is a flouriſhing town of about eleven thouſand people, owing to a very rich ſilver mine, diſcovered in the year 1623, which gave birth to this town, immediately peopled with German miners. Dr. Buſching thinks, that no fewer than three thouſand five hundred perſons, officers, artificers, and labourers are employed on this mine, which alſo produces ſome gold.

III. Bergen is the largeſt city, and enjoys the greateſt commerce of any place in Norway. Its harbour is defended by forts, and by neighbouring mountains. All its ſix churches, public edifices, and moſt of the houſes along the ſtrand or ſhore, are built of ſtone; although, till of late, they were moſtly built of timber: in times preceding the reformation, it is ſaid to have contained thirty churches and convents. It carries on a very great trade in furs, ſtock-fiſh, tallow, hides, and timber.

IV. Drontheim, a ſea-port on the river Nid, is well fortified, has now but two churches, though in times of popery it had ten churches and five convents. It carries on, however, a conſiderable trade in timber, fiſh, tallow, and copper; and they have lately erected a ſugar houſe. Here is a fine cathedral ſchool, a ſeminary for miſſionaries, an orphan-houſe, a work-houſe, and an hoſpital.

THE NORWEGIAN ISLANDS.

I. The Ferroe Iſles lie in the Northern Ocean, about one hundred and ſeventy leagues ſouth of Iceland, and not quite half ſo much weſtward from his Britannic Majeſty's Shetland Iſles, and ſomewhat farther to the weſt of Norway: they are twenty-five in number, though only ſeventeen of them are inhabited, lying between the degrees of ſixty-one fifteen minutes, and ſixty-two degrees ten minutes. They are, in effect, ſo many ſolid rocks, the ſurfaces whereof are covered with earth to the depth of an ell; which ſhallow ſoil is ſo fertile as to yield twenty for one in corn. Their paſtures are excellent, eſpecially for ſheep, in the numerous flocks of which the wealth of the inhabitants conſiſts. Their merchandize ſold to foreigners are, ſalted mutton, gooſe quills, eider down, feathers, knit woollen waiſtcoats, caps and ſtockings, tallow, &c. Their religion is Lutheran; and but ſeven preachers, under a ſuperintendant, have the care of thirty-nine churches.—In Stromoe, the largeſt iſle, there is a ſmall town named Thorſhaven, defended by a fort, where there is a little ſchool; and this place is a common market for all thoſe iſles.

II. The Iſland of Iceland lies about one hundred and twenty Norway miles diſtant weſtward from Drontheim, and about ſixty ſouthward from Greenland: it is moſtly a mountainous country, yet there are roads practicable for a horſe in all parts of the iſland. Carriages were formerly uſed, but are now laid aſide, as the trouble attending them was too great. Every year ſome hundreds of pack-horſes come over the mountains from the north, to the trading places in the ſouth parts of the iſland, laden with butter, woollen manufactures, &c.—Iceland has many fiery irruptions, beſides the famous burning mountain of Hecla. No corn will grow in Iceland, wherefore the commonalty content themſelves without it, by means of dried fiſh and fleſh, and of a certain ſea vegetable dried at the fire. They have plenty of ſheep, for whoſe benefit nature ſeems to have provided ſhelter, in winter and other ſevere weather, by the many large caves in the earth, whither they retire. They have alſo plenty of horſes, which, though ſmall, are full of ſpirit, and lie in the open air all the year round, excepting ſuch as are broke for the ſaddle; and in winter they ſubſiſt only on what fodder they can ſcrape from under the ice and ſnow, as do likewiſe the ſheep, when the ſnow is not very deep, and the weather happens to be fair and mild; but if the ſheep happen to be ſurprized by a great ſnow, they immediately form themſelves into a cloſe compact body, by laying their heads together in the center, till their owners come to help them; though ſometimes they periſh before relief comes, through the weight of the ſnow. Their oxen and cows in the ſouth parts are fed with fiſh bones, and the water in which the fiſh is boiled. Here are no hogs; and tame poultry are too expenſive to be generally kept; but there is plenty of wild fowl. The uſual food is freſh and dried fiſh, dreſſed with butter, with milk, oatmeal, and fleſh; and their common drink is milk, or milk and water; though the more wealthy are fond of beer and ſpirituous liquors; and the moſt wealthy ſometimes purchaſe red and white French wines.

The commerce of Iceland is now confined to a company at Copenhagen, eſtabliſhed by a royal charter, in the year 1733, who annually ſend twenty-three ſhips thither; ſome to fiſh ports, others to fleſh ports. The cattle are delivered to the factors at the fleſh ports; and at the fiſh ports the factors purchaſe all the ſound dried cod and ling, and alſo the train oil, according to the fixed rate. The Icelanders either barter their commodities for thoſe of Denmark, or elſe receive Daniſh ready money for them. Accounts are kept here, and all calculations are made by fiſhes, forty-eight of which being deemed equal to a ſpecie dollar.—Their general exports are chiefly dried fiſh, ſalted mutton and beef, butter, train oil, tallow, coarſe and fine jackets of their woollen cloth called Wadmal, woollen ſtockings and gloves, red wool, ſheep ſkins and lamb ſkins, fox-tails, feathers, and quills. They have a printing preſs at Hoolar or Holum; and in every biſhop's ſee there is a public Latin ſchool, as a ſeminary for the clergy, from whence they go to the Univerſity of Copenhagen. The number of the inhabitants of Iceland is about fifty thouſand.

They have no towns properly ſo called, nor ſcarcely any deſerving the name of a village.

This account of Iceland, given by Dr. Buſching, is by far the beſt hitherto publiſhed.

Greenland, by which we by no means underſtand Spitſbergen, but the country often named or called Old Greenland, as far as is hitherto certainly known, is probably a part of, or joined to the great continent of North America. In the body of our work, under the year 817, is ſeen how early ſo inhoſpitable a country was known to and planted by the Norwegians.—That, in the year 1070, it was by them chriſtianized; and that it was unaccountably loſt about the year 1348: and that,

that, aſter ſome fruitleſs attempts, it was again re-colonized by Denmark in 1751. It has at preſent, ſays Dr. Buſching, four Daniſh colonies, and one Moravian colony, where there are Chriſtian congregations and miſſionaries: and the Greenland Company of Copenhagen, eſtabliſhed in the year 1751, ſend thither three or four ſhips annually, for the trade of peltry, whale-fins, and train-oil.

GERMANY.

This country, according to Dr. Buſching, is one thouſand ſquare German miles (each equal to four Engliſh ones) larger than France with all its modern acquiſitions.

The rivulets running down from the Alps into the Rhine, convey with the ſand many particles of gold. Chryſtal is alſo found in the Upper Rhine. Plenty of fiſh in all its rivers, and of the beſt and greateſt variety of timbers in its foreſts and woods. Many olive trees; and entire woods of cheſnut and walnut trees. In her woods alſo are made much pot-aſh, pitch, and charcoal. In ſome parts, for the cultivation of ſilk, there are great numbers of white mulberry trees.

Its ſoil produces all ſorts of grain in plenty, of which conſiderable quantities are exported.

Its native materials for commerce are hemp, flax, hops, aniſe, cummin, tobacco, ſaffron, madder, truffles; variety of excellent roots and pot herbs. Fine fruits, equal to thoſe of France and Italy. Excellent Rheniſh, Moſel, Muſcadel, and other wines, ſome of which exceed thoſe of France and Hungary. All ſorts of good cattle in the greateſt plenty, alſo the beſt of cheeſe and butter. Tame and wild fowl of the beſt kinds. Salt ſprings. Pearls and various precious ſtones. Vitriol, allum, ſaltpetre, pit-coal, black and yellow amber, ſulphur, quickſilver, virgin ſilver, cinnabar, arſenic, cobalt, antimony, and lapis calaminaris. Of metals, ſhe has iron, ſteel, copper, lead, and tin: alſo loadſtone.

Dr. Buſching thinks it very probable, that Germany contains twenty-four millions of people, ſuppoſing France to contain twenty millions. Yet others think, that Germany does not contain above twenty millions, and France ſcarcely ſeventeen millions; more eſpecially conſidering her late ruinous wars.

Germany is doubtleſs very advantageouſly ſituated for commerce, lying in the middle of Europe, open to three different ſeas, having many rivers navigable a vaſt way up its inland parts; from whence come down, and are exported to other countries, corn, tobacco, horſes, lean cattle, butter, cheeſe, honey, wax, wines, linen and woollen, yarn, ribbons, ſilk and cotton ſtuffs, toys, turnery wares in wood, metals, and ivory, goat ſkins, wool, timber both for ſhip-building and houſes, cannon and bullets, bombs and bomb-ſhells, iron plates and ſtoves, tinned plates, ſteel work, copper, braſs wire, the fineſt porcelain upon earth, earthen ware, glaſſes, mirrors, hogs briſtles, mum, beer, tartar, ſmalts, zafer, Pruſſian blue, printers ink, and many other things.

In order to the mercantile and political deſcription of this large empire, we ſhall begin with Upper Saxony, as lying remoteſt and furtheſt north with reſpect to us.

UPPER-SAXONY.

The electoral dominions of his Pruſſian Majeſty in Germany are,

I. Brandenburg, or eaſtern, Pomerania, yields plenty of all good things, wine only excepted; as, timber both for houſes and ſhipping, pitch and tar, flax and hemp, grain of all kinds, and ſalt-works. Its geeſe are famous for the largeneſs of their ſize, and dried Pomeranian geeſe, ham, ſauſages,

ſages, and ſalmon, are eſteemed the beſt in all Germany. Its extended coaſt along the Baltic ſhore, to the confines of Poliſh Pruſſia, as well as on the eaſt coaſt of the great river Oder, is extremely beneficial to trade and navigation.

Of the places of Pruſſian or Brandenburg Pomerania, where manufactures flouriſh, the principal are, Stetin, the capital city of the whole dutchy of Pomerania, Stargard, Colberg, Coſlin, Camin, and Corlin. The commerce of Stetin may be gueſſed at, ſays Dr. Buſching, from whence, in the year 1756, there were exported to England, Holland, France, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Mecklenburg, Pruſſia, Dantzick, Lubeck, and Hamburg:

Blue ſtarch (though not a manufacture of this country, but imported)	10,089	lbs.
Antimony	72,210	
Arſenic	1,171	cwt.
Tin	106	plates
Dimity	106	pieces
Flannel	251	
Lapis Calaminaris	107	tons
Glaſs	6,649	half cheſts
Holland Glaſs	17,608	rix-dollars worth
Timber for building	130,966	
Ship Timber	8,916	
Haberdaſhery wares	22,526	
Wood for fewel	33,186	cords[*]
Guiacum	1,401	ſchocks[†]
Clap-boards	2,598	
Maſts	30	maſts
Planks	5,179	planks
Pipe ſtaves	22,861	ſchocks
Hogſhead ſtaves	8,108	
Ton ſtaves	32,814	
Cord	24	cheſts
Stone blocks	436,960	blocks
Glaſs	639	cwt.
Pot-aſh	147	tons
Madder	408	cwt.
Scythes	1,830	
Sope	233	tons
Tobacco	5,812	cwt.
Woollen cloth	3,448	pieces
Poland wool	775	cwt.

All which goods were exported in one thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy-one veſſels, beſide ninety-ſeven which went away in ballaſt.

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[*] So the Engliſh tranſlation has it.——[†] "A ſchock" ſays the Tranſlator, "is any number "of ſixty," which is quite unintelligible.

The tranſlator has, we imagine, rightly named them veſſels, as probably many of them were of ſmall burden. This brief catalogue of merchandize gives a very favourable idea of the commerce of Stetin, as well as a view of the productions of Pomerania. That city is ſeated on the left of the Oder, and is large, handſome, and well fortified; has a chamber of commerce, a royal gymnaſium or capital ſchool, and an arſenal; has ſeven Lutheran churches, a French Calviniſt church, and a Popiſh one; a court of admiralty, a dock for ſhipping, many and great variety of manufactures, and an extenſive foreign commerce: in its caſtle all the courts and colleges of the province have their meetings and records. This city, and all the countries betwixt the rivers Peine and Oder, with the iſles of Wollin and Uſedom, were yielded for ever by Sweden to the King of Pruſſia, by the treaty of Stockholm, in the year 1720; in conſideration whereof, the King of Pruſſia paid two hundred thouſand rix-dollars to Sweden.

2. Anclam, on the Peine, contains two churches, and has improved its commerce ſince it came under the Pruſſian dominion.

3. The iſland of Uſedom, with a town of the ſame name, and the Peinemunder Schanz, commanding the entrance into the Peine. On the north ſide of this iſle, next the Baltic, ſtood the once famous town and port of Winet; which, with much adjoining land, was ſwallowed up by an inundation in the eighth or ninth century, or, as others write, was deſtroyed by the Danes. Dr. Buſching relates, that, at low tides in the Baltic, ſome ruins of that place are ſtill viſible, at the diſtance of half a German mile from the iſland.

4. In the iſle of Wollin, north of the Friſch-haff, ſtands its chief town named Wollin, on the ſcite of the ancient city of Julin, once ſo ſamous for commerce; though of a very obſcure origin.—See our main work, under the years 1080 and 1182.

5. Damm, a ſmall town, in which is a fine ſteel manufacture.

6. In what is called the proper dutchy of Pomerania, lies Stargard, the capital of the Eaſtern Pomerania, having, by means of the river Ihna, a communication with the Baltic Sea. It is large, well built, has four churches, and ſome charitable foundations; ſeveral good manufactures, and a conſiderable commerce.

7. Cammin, with its ſuburbs, makes at preſent a good figure, by means of its navigation, fiſhing, and agriculture.

8. Belgard, in the county of Caſſubia, has a caſtle and provoſtſhip, with a good trade.

9. And the like of New Stetin, built after the model of the capital city of that name.

10. Rugenwald, on the Baltic ſhore, is a large and well-built town; and,

11. Rummelſburg, a town where there is a cloth manufacture.

12. Stolpe, a town having two Lutheran churches, and one Calviniſt one. It has a great linen trade, and deals largely with Dantzick, from which it is diſtant about fifteen German miles. Here are made very curious toys in amber.

13. Colberg, a well fortified and conſiderably large town, on the Baltic ſhore, of which it gave ſufficient proof in the year 1761, when beſieged and taken by the Ruſſians. By means of its good woollen and linen manufactures, its trade with neighbouring Poland, and by its numerous ſhipping, it is at preſent in a thriving condition, having four pariſh churches, and being noted alſo for the profitable ſalt-pits in its neighbourhood.

14. Coſlin, a fair and newly re-built town, with ſome manufactures; and

15. Corlin, a ſmall place, having, however, ſome good woollen manufactures.

This is the epitomized ſubſtance of the preſent ſtate of the Pruſſian, and by far the beſt part of the large dutchy of Pomerania; which, according to Dr. Buſching, at preſent yields about five times as much revenue to its ſovereign, as the Swediſh part of Pomerania.

II. Swediſh Pomerania was originally larger than at preſent.

1. In it lies the principality and iſland of Rugen, with ſeveral adjacent iſles, containing twenty-ſeven pariſhes. That iſle has, in ancient times, made a much greater figure than at preſent. It abounds in grain and cattle; but Bergen, its chief town, though the ſeat of its government, is both open and ſmall.

2. On the continent, oppoſite to, and about an Engliſh mile diſtant from Rugen, ſtands the ancient, and once much more famous than at preſent, city and port of Straelſund, the capital of Swediſh Pomerania, of old an eminent member of the Hanſeatic League. At preſent its citizens ſtill form a numerous body, amongſt whom are many ſubſtantial merchants. Here is a gymnaſium, or illuſtrious academy. Its principal commerce is in corn, pitch, tar, roſin, hides, tallow, honey, and wax. It is almoſt, however, needleſs to add, that this city has greatly declined, ſince it loſt its more free condition.

3. Gripeſwald, a ſea-port and univerſity, once a Hans-town; it has three pariſh churches, and a good trade in corn, hides, and tallow.

4. Wolgaſt, is a decayed ſea-port town, which, after many diſaſters, has ſtill ſome commerce.

Dr. Buſching thinks, that the entire revenue of Swediſh Pomerania does not exceed one hundred and twenty-four thouſand rix-dollars: whereas that of Pruſſian Pomerania may amount to eight hundred thouſand rix-dollars: that, in the entire dutchy, there are twenty-eight towns; and that, in common years, there die annually twelve thouſand perſons, which, multiplied by thirty-three, makes the whole number of inhabitants to amount to three hundred and ninety-ſix thouſand, and not to four hundred and ſixty thouſand, as that author's computation makes them amount to.

In general it may be obſerved, with Dr. Buſching, that the Mark or Marquiſate of Brandenburg, under King Frederick-William, and his great ſon King Frederick II. has acquired a new and more pleaſing form. Agriculture has, under the reigns of thoſe two great princes, been almoſt marvelloully improved; waſte and barren lands have been cultivated: ſuperfluous woods grubbed up, and villages erected in their ſtead; deep moraſſes drained and rendered fertile. Its remaining woods and foreſts rendered more ſerviceable, not only for common fuel, but for glaſs-houſes, forges, charcoal, tar, pot-aſh, houſe and ſhip-timber, the latter partly exported to Hamburg, Holland, and other countries. Here grow, in abundance, millet, buck-wheat, flax, woad, and tobacco. From their fine wool many good manufactures have been eſtabliſhed. The culture of ſilk has ſucceſsfully been propagated, and is conſtantly increaſing. This country alſo produces alum, ſaltpetre, amber, porcelain earth, and iron ſtone. The Elbe and Oder, two of the greateſt and moſt navigable rivers in Germany, running through this marquiſate, are of very great benefit. The great Elector Frederic-William, in ſix years time, viz. between 1662 and 1668, joined the rivers Spree and Oder, by means of a canal, three German miles, or twelve Engliſh miles, in length. The Havel and Oder have been joined by his preſent Majeſty, Frederick III. between the years 1743 and 1746, by a canal, having thirteen ſluices. And the ſame great Prince, between 1743 and 1745, cauſed a canal to be dug, four and an half German miles in length, with three ſluices on it, from the river Elbe to the river Havel; whereby the water-carriage between Berlin and Magdeburg is ſhortened about one-half, and nine different bridges are laid over it. Moreover, what is called the Oder Canal, runs out of the Oder at a certain place, and, for the like ſhortening of the water-paſſage, enters that river again; which canal was opened in the year 1753. There are alſo divers inland lakes, between which

which a communication has been made by means of canals and ſluices. Theſe are truly magnificent works. Yet we have ſtill more to relate.

It ſeems, that, by wars, famine, and peſtilence, this country was become much thinned of inhabitants, for the ſupplying of which, and out of regard to his diſtreſſed Proteſtant brethren, the Elector Frederic-William invited the French refugees, driven from home by their King, Louis the Fourteenth, to come and ſettle here, where he beſtowed on them conſiderable benefits and immunities, which were further enlarged by his ſon, Frederic the Firſt, created King of Pruſſia; whereby many hundreds of families were induced to ſettle here. Moreover, ſince the year 1688, many Lorrainers, Walloons, Switzers, Bohemians, and other Germans, have been kindly received here. By all which acceſſions, the number of this marquiſate's inhabitants were, in the year 1756, computed to amount to eight hundred thouſand, the majority of which are of the Lutheran communion.

Thoſe French refugees have introduced many fine and profitable manufactures into this country, to which they were formerly utter ſtrangers; principally at Berlin and Potſdam: as woollen cloths, and ſtuffs of many kinds; wrought ſilks and ſilk ſtuffs, velvets, tapeſtries, gold and ſilver lace, &c.

In this marquiſiate are made alum, ſaltpetre, gunpowder, fine porcelain, wrought and caſt iron, ſteel and braſs work, military weapons of all ſorts, excellent mirrors; here alſo are ſugar-houſes, wrought leather, and tobacco plantations. At Berlin alſo, are excellent painters, engravers, ſtatuaries, enamellers, jewellers, goldſmiths, mathematical and other inſtrument makers. By all which means, a ſaving is not only made of much money kept at home, but very large quantities of the before-named merchandize are exported to foreign countries, to a great amount, through the convenience of the above-named rivers and canals.

Dr. Buſching ſays he is well informed, that in all his Pruſſian Majeſty's dominions, on a medium of ſix years, from 1750 to 1756, there are annually chriſtened one hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand five hundred and ſixty-ſeven children; and about one hundred and twenty-five thouſand three hundred and forty-eight perſons die annually; therefore, according to him, this laſt ſum, multiplied by thirty-eight, gives the whole number of his Majeſty's ſubjects to be four million ſeven hundred and ſixty-three thouſand two hundred and twenty-four, Yet we are apprehenſive, that this is a conſiderable miſcomputation, if we are to be guided by moſt other careful obſervers, and that even in healthy years and countries, there probably dies one out of thirty-three, but in great and voluptuous cities one out of thirty, and that, even if the multiplier be thirty-three, the number of people will be only four million one hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand four hundred and eighty-four, in all that King's territories; although that author obſerves, that ſome have eſtimated them to amount to five millions of people.

The ſame author informs us, that the entire annual revenue of his Pruſſian Majeſty's territories are computed to amount to near twenty millions of dollars, or between four and five millions ſterling.

I. In the Old Mark, or Marquiſate, are the following towns, viz.

1. Stendal, its chief town, formerly a member of the Hans League, contains four pariſh churches. Here the French refugees have introduced ſeveral good manufactures.

2. Soltwedel has alſo four pariſh churches: and a good manufacture of cloth, frizes, ſerges, ſtockings, and linen; and ſells much beer to other parts. It was alſo formerly a Hans-town.

3. Gardelegen has two churches, four hoſpitals, two of which have churches or chapels. It has a cloth manufacture.

In the diſtrict of Prignitz, are,

4. Perlberg has two churches, and three hundred and ſixty-nine dwelling houſes, but no particular manufacture.

5. Havelberg, on the Havel, diſtils and vends great quantities of brandy, makes many knit ſtockings, builds many boats for the Elbe, on which it ſends down vaſt quantities of cord wood.

II. In the Middle Mark, are,

1. Brandenburg, on the Havel, contains four churches, and about one thouſand two hundred inhabitants. A ſmall colony of French refugees have here introduced manufactures of woollen cloth, fuſtian, and canvas; and, in general, a tolerable trade by land and water; having been formerly a Popiſh biſhopric, it has ſtill a Proteſtant chapter.

2. Potſdam, on the Havel, beſide having a favourite royal palace, has alſo many fine houſes, and four churches. Its large orphan hoſpital maintains and educates two thouſand children of ſoldiers of both ſexes, having both a Lutheran and Calviniſt preacher. At this fine town is a great foundery for artillery; alſo various manufactures of ſilk, velvet, &c. Here alſo are noble conveniencies for the horſe and foot guards.

3. Spandau is a very famous fort, has an excellent foundery for artillery, is a thriving little town, with a ſpinning and correction houſe.

4. Berlin, on the river Spree, is the principal reſidence of the King, and the capital of all his dominions; one of the largeſt, fineſt, and moſt populous cities in Germany; containing many fine palaces, beſide the King's, and many beautiful ſtreets and ſquares, with twenty-five churches, viz. fourteen Lutheran and eleven Calviniſt ones, and alſo one Popiſh church: it has ſeveral polite academies, theatres, ſchools, and two libraries. Here were reckoned, ſays Dr. Buſching, in the year 1755, five thouſand eight hundred and twenty-ſix houſes, and (including the garriſon, their wives and children) it then contained one hundred and twenty-ſix thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-one inhabitants. It has many excellent and important manufactures and rich fabrications. In Coln, on the other ſide the river, is the King's palace, and many other fine ones.

The great increaſe of Berlin is almoſt entirely owing to the French Proteſtant refugees, who are here in vaſt numbers, and have ſeveral churches. It was they who brought manufactures and trade into great credit; ſeeing, till then, there were but about fourteen thouſand people in Berlin, *i. e.* till about the year 1690. In the year 1755, there were no leſs than four hundred and forty-three ſilk looms, one hundred and forty-nine of half ſilks, two thouſand eight hundred and fifty-eight looms for woollen ſtuffs, four hundred and fifty-three for cotton, two hundred and forty-eight for linen, four hundred aud fifty-four for lace work, thirty-nine frames for ſilk ſtockings, and three hundred and ten for worſted ones. They have here manufactures of tapeſtry, gold and ſilver lace, mirrors, &c. Here alſo are many charitable foundations, and very prudent regulations: here alſo are ſeveral ſalt and ſugar houſes.

In its neighbourhood are ſeveral ſmall towns, in one of which, named Strauſberg, the inhabitants are moſtly clothiers, ſupplying a great part of the army with bayes: near it alſo are braſs works, black and white tin plate, and poliſhed ſteel manufactures. The river Spree, communicating by canals both with the Elbe and Oder, brings up to Berlin great barks continually from Hamburg and other cities.

We are principally indebted to Dr. Buſching's new Geography, for this fine account of Berlin's vaſt improvements in ſo ſhort a ſpace, which, as well as that of Peterſburg, may ſhew what wiſe and reſolute meaſures can effect when ſteadily purſued, for the advancement of commerce and riches, and the increaſe of uſeful ſubjects. A manifeſt difference is, however, obſervable between the advancement of theſe two cities; the latter rapidly, compulſively, and arbitrarily effected, and therefore more likely to be leſs permanent; ſince a future equally deſpotic monarch may poſſibly diſlike the ſituation of ſo damp and cold a place, and, by the return of the court to Moſcow, or to ſome other city, much of the commerce of Peterſburg may be diſſipated; whereas the advancement of Berlin, though not ſo rapid as the other, has been brought about by well concerted, kindly and gently attractive meaſures, and therefore more likely to prove durable.

In the circle of Lebus, lies,

1. Francfort on the Oder, once a Hans-town, has an univerſity, three Lutheran and two Calviniſt churches. It has a tolerable trade in linen and woollen goods, and has two annual fairs to which many Jews reſort from Poland.

2. Lebus is an inconſiderable town on the Oder.

3. Ruppin has above eight hundred burghers, as Dr. Buſching's Engliſh tranſlator darkly expreſſes it, two Lutheran churches, and one Calviniſt one. It deals largely in woollen cloth of its own manufacture, and likewiſe in grain and beer.

4. At Nieuſtadt is a glaſs houſe, and alſo one for caſting of mirrors.

In the Ucker Mark, the only city of eminence, in a mercantile ſenſe, is Prenſlow its capital, on the Ucker. It is large and well built, and has a numerous French colony. It contains ſix churches; has a good manufacture of woollen cloth, and a large trade in corn, tobacco, and cattle.

The New Mark contains,

1. Cuſtrin, its capital, on the Oder, is an exceeding ſtrong town, having three churches, two hoſpitals, and a workhouſe, though little of any thing commercial.

2. Landſberg, on the Warta, is well built; has three churches, and ſome fine woollen manufactures.

3. Croſſen, dutchy, was formerly, as well as Sileſia, of which ſome deem it a part, ſubject to Poland. The town of that name ſtands on the Oder, and has two Lutheran churches, and one Calviniſt church: it has ſome woollen and linen manufactures, and makes ſome wine in its neighbourhood, though not eſteemed very good.

4. Cotbus, near the river Spree, has three Lutheran and two Calviniſt churches, and ſome good woollen manufactures, and certain charitable foundations.

I. In Upper Saxony circles, all its twenty-two ſtates or ſovereignties are Proteſtant, the Eelectoral-houſe of Saxony, of late years, excepted.

The Electorate of Saxony, taken in general, is one of the beſt countries in all Germany, abounding in all kinds of grain, fruits, corn, metals of all kinds but gold, antimony; (the ſilver mine near Friburg, according to Mr. Nugent's Grand Tour, produces, every fifteen days, to the value of twenty thouſand dollars) pitch and tar, hops, flax, wine, though chiefly only in Miſnia, tobacco, aniſe, ſaffron, pit coal, fullers earth, porcelain, marble, precious ſtones, as diamonds, topazes, hyacinths, rubies, granates, amethiſts, ſapphires, ſays Dr. Buſching, opals, cornelians, agates, and jaſper; ſalt-works, cinnabar, ſulphur, quickſilver, amber, and cobalt, whereof ſmalt, or a blue colour, is made in vaſt quantities, and in the greateſt repute, much of which is exported, to great profit.

This electorate contains two hundred and ten walled towns, ſixty-one market towns, and about three thouſand villages. The manufactures here are fine and coarſe linen and thread in great quantities, ticking, canvas, fuſtians, cottons, fine lace, ribbons, paper, the fineſt porcelain, glaſs of many kinds, variety of iron, ſteel, and braſs manufactures, gold and ſilver ſtuffs, woollen cloth, flannels, frizes, ſtuffs, ſtockings, fabrics of ſilks, velvets, pluſh, handkerchiefs, hats, gloves, caps, fine

fine tapeſtry, ſtarch, and many other articles: by all which an important foreign commerce is carried on.

Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, thinks the revenues of this electorate may amount to near eight millions of rixdollars; but Dr. Buſching's opinion is, that they are between ſix and ſeven millions; we will therefore ſuppoſe them only to be ſix millions; at four ſhillings and ſix-pence per dollar, it amounts to one million three hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſterling.

In the proper dutchy of Saxony, lie,

1. Wittenberg, near the Elbe, has a famous univerſity; and, though not large, has an arſenal and fortifications; but nothing memorable in reſpect to commerce.

2. Herzberg, deals in wool, and has woollen manufactures, and ſaltpetre works.

In the Landgravate of Thuringia, lies,

1. Weiſſenfels, a well built and fortified city on the Sala, having three churches, and has manufactures of ſilk and velvet, with ſome charitable foundations.

2. Langenſalza, on the Salza, has two churches, and about nine hundred houſes: its manufactures conſiſt in half ſilks and woollen ſtuffs, and it deals in corn and grain.

3. The city and territory of Erfurth, though lying in Thuringia, is ſubject to the Elector of Mentz; the city is large, but not populous, and, like other places under the ſovereignty of eccleſiaſtical Princes, is crouded with cloiſters, abbeys, nunneries, collegiate and other churches and chapels, a Jeſuits college, four Popiſh pariſh churches, and ſix Lutheran churches, and an improved univerſity for both religions. Its chief trade is in corn, wine, and woad for dyers.

4. Weimar has two churches, is the head of a principality or dutchy named Saxe-Weimar. It deals largely in wines, corn, and hops.

5. Jena is the only good town in the principality of Eiſſenach, which now belongs to the Duke of Saxe-Weimar. It has a celebrated univerſity; it ſtands on the river Saale, is well fortified, has three churches, and the pleaſant vale in its vicinity produces much wine. Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, ſays, that Lutheran ſtudents from Livonia, Poland, Sileſia, and Hungary, ſtudy here for its cheapneſs.

Coburgh is the chief and only good town of a principality of that name, now partly annexed to the Electoral-houſe of Saxony. It has four churches; has a gold and ſilver ſtuff manufactory, one of porcelain; and has, in its neighbourhood, plenty of corn, cattle, wine, iron, ſtone, marble, and pit coal.

In the principality of Saxe-Hilburghauſen ſtands Hilburghauſen, on the Werra, the ducal reſidence. It has two Lutheran churches, and one Calviniſt church, has a ducal palace, and many handſome houſes; but is not remarkable for commerce.

The principality of Saxe-Gotha abounds in grain and fruit. Gotha, its capital, is one of the beſt and handſomeſt towns in Thuringia, having four churches, and about two thouſand houſes, a *gymnaſium illuſtre*, or illuſtrious ſchool, and many charitable foundations. It has a conſiderable trade in woollen and other manufactures, as have ſome other ſmaller places in this principality. It deals alſo in woad and beer, and has a foundery for cannon, &c. In this city alſo there is a laboratory, a muſeum, an armory, and a fine ducal palace. This Prince is the chief of the Erneſtine line of Saxony, and is, by ſome authors, ſaid to have ſo large a revenue as two hundred thouſand pounds ſterling per annum, being the moſt powerful of all the Saxon Princes next to the Electoral family: he is lineally deſcended from the Elector Frederic Magnanimus, who was deprived by the Emperor V. ſince which time the Albertine line has enjoyed the dignity of the Electorate.

The principality of Altenburg, is now in the Electoral family of Saxony. Altenburg, its capital, is moderately large and populous; has two churches, many charitable foundations, an illuſtrious ſchool, or *gymnaſium*: it has ſome gold and ſilk ſtuff manufactures, ſalt and iron works, ſome woollen manufactures. Here, and at its ſmaller towns, are potters and curriers; and the country abounds in corn and ſtrong cattle, and alſo in copper and vitriol.

N. B. Although the before-named five principalities are ſaid to be within the Electorate of Saxony, the reader needs not to be told, that three of them are no part of the proper dominions of the Elector, as before is ſhewn, but are ſubject to their own independent Princes.

The counties of Stolberg and Wernigerode in Thuringia, do both belong to the Count of Stolberg, the latter being a fief of Brandenburg.

1. Stolberg town is the place of reſidence of the Count, having two Lutheran churches. And the town of Wernigerode has four Lutheran churches: in it is a great trade in the brewery and diſtillery buſineſs: here alſo are manufactures of woollen goods: here alſo are iron mills, flatting mills, paper and powder mills; alſo copper mines.

In the lordſhips of the Counts of Reuſſen in Voigtland are mines of ſilver, copper, iron, lead, and alum.

1. The town of Greitz has two Lutheran churches, a palace, an orphan houſe, a great ſchool, and other foundations. And its trade conſiſts in ſtuffs, and ſome other manufactures.

2. Gera has five churches, a *gymnaſium*, or illuſtrious ſchool, and, for its beauty, is called Little Leipzig. It has good manufactures of cloths, ſtuffs, and ſtockings; of which much is exported: here alſo are iron mills.

3. Schleitz is a town of three churches, and has a woollen manufacture.

In the lordſhips of the Counts of Schonburg, in the Margravate of Miſnia, are fourteen towns; in which all ſorts of manufactures flouriſh, according to Buſching; who, however, has not been at all particular therein.

The Marquiſate of Luſatia is a Lutheran country and province, ſubject to the Elector of Saxony, lying north of the kingdom of Bohemia. It produces grain and pulſe, flax, hops, alum, tobacco, iron, and ſome wine. Its numerous and very good woollen and linen manufactures are of great importance to thoſe towns, wherein, according to Dr. Buſching, they have flouriſhed ſo early as the thirteenth century.

The former perſecutions of Proteſtants in Bohemia and Sileſia forced great numbers of them to withdraw to, and ſettle in Upper Luſatia, where they founded many villages, and propagated the linen manufactures, particularly fine table linen and tickings. Here are alſo good manufactures of hats, ſtockings, paper, gunpowder, leather, iron, wax-bleaching, glaſs, &c. Yet all thoſe manufactures are, in ſome degree, decreaſed of later times, as one nation or people are conſtantly juſtling another out of commerce and manufactures.

In Upper Luſatia are,

1. Bautzen, the capital of the whole Marquiſate. It is conſiderably large, well built and inhabited; having ſeveral churches, hoſpitals, and workhouſes; has a conſiderable trade in linen, hats, ſtockings, gloves, cloth, fuſtian, &c.

2. Gorlitz, though not the firſt in rank, is, however, eſteemed the largeſt town in all Luſatia, having ſix pariſh churches, and ſeveral hoſpitals; and a conſiderable cloth manufacture.

3. Zittaw is alſo a fine and good town, having ſeveral churches and hoſpitals; and has good manufactures of woollen, linen, and blue paper.

In Lower Luſatia are the five circle, or diſtrict, towns of Luckau, Guben, Lubben, Kalaw, and Spremberg; moſt of which towns, though not quite ſo conſiderable as the foregoing ones, are, however, manufacturing places. Sorau is likewiſe a good town, with five churches, and manufactures much woollen cloth, yarn, and linen.

In the excellent country of Meiſſen or Miſnia are,

1. Meiſſen, on the Elbe, is a well fortified town; it has four churches and ſeveral ſchools. It is here that the chief manufacture of the fineſt porcelain on earth is carried on, though beſt known abroad by the name of Dreſden porcelain, much finer and dearer than what comes from China.

2. Dreſden, the Electoral capital, is one of the fineſt cities in all Germany, pleaſantly ſeated on both ſides the river Elbe. Beſide its fortifications, and the noble palace of the Elector, in which are vaſt collections of the richeſt curioſities, here are very many grand and magnificent buildings, both public and private; many churches and charitable foundations. And, what is moſt to our purpoſe, here are iron, copper, and ſilver founderies; marble works, mills for boring and poliſhing of mirrors; many rich and fine manufactures of woollen cloth and ſtuffs, and of ſtockings, &c. linen, lace, embroidery, fine cut glaſſes, Spaniſh leather, gold and ſilver ſtuffs, founderies for bells, cannon, &c. Moſt excellent performances in ſtatuary, painting, enamelling, and carving. Moreover, by means of the Elbe, a conſiderable foreign commerce is from hence carried on.

Dreſden, according to Dr. Buſching, may, with all its ſuburbs, contain ninety thouſand people.

3. Pirna, on the left of the Elbe, is a very ſtrong town; has two churches; and, by means of that river, carries on a conſiderable trade: its neighbouring quarries of what they call ſand ſtone, cut into large blocks for ſtatuaries, are much exported to foreign parts.

4. Groſſen-Hayne, on the Roder, has three churches, and ſome manufactures of woollen cloth, ſtockings, and gloves. It was at this town that the fine green colour for dying was of late years invented, known in foreign parts by the name of Saxon Green.

5. Torgau, on the Elbe, is a good town, with a citadel, and three churches; and has manufactures of woollen cloth, ſilk, and velvet.

6. Oſchatz has three churches, and has woollen and other manufactures.

The circle of Leipzig contains,

1. Leipzig, one of the fineſt, politeſt, and moſt celebrated cities in Germany. It ſtands on the little river Pleiſs, which is not navigable; yet is one of the moſt principal trading towns in all Germany, enjoying in general not only an important foreign trade, but likewiſe particularly at its three celebrated annual fairs, to which dealers from all parts of Europe reſort, both for foreign and domeſtic merchandize. It has a fine exchange, a ſtrong citadel, a cloth hall, and all ſorts of manufactures of gold, ſilver, ſilk, woollen, and linen; velvets, tapeſtry, cotton printing, leather, Pruſſian blue, ſtockings, &c. Mr. Nugent's Grand Tour makes the number of people within its walls amount to forty thouſand two hundred, beſide thoſe in its populous ſuburbs; and ſays, that its great merchants houſes look like princely palaces: it contains nine Lutheran churches, a Popiſh chapel, and a large room for the public worſhip of the French Calviniſts. Ever ſince the year 1701, ſays Dr. Buſching, its ſtreets have been provided with above ſeven hundred lamps. Beſide its many ſtately edifices, here is a moſt famous univerſity conſiſting of ſix colleges.

2. Grimma has three churches. Its principal trade conſiſts in timber, woollen cloth, and thread, the latter much eſteemed at Leipzig fairs and in foreign parts: here is a flannel printing houſe, this town having been the firſt place in Saxony that imitated the Engliſh flannel.

3. Leiſznig has two churches, and manufactures of coarſe woollen cloth, ſtockings, lace, linen, fuſtians, hats, combs; alſo yarn and linen bleaching.

4. Dobeln has three churches, and manufactures of coarſe woollen goods, of fine hats, fine linen damaſk and ticking.

5. Rochlitz, a town of the like magnitude and manufactures.

6. Wurzen, on the river Muldau, has three churches. Here are many houſes for cloth dying, ſtockings, and linen bleaching.

Theſe ſix towns are much given to the woollen and linen manufactures; for which ends they alſo have ſoap making. Fullers earth is dug in this country.

In the circle of Erſgebirg are,

1. Freyberg, on the Muldau, is the principal mine town of this Electorate. It contains about two thouſand houſes, and, in the year 1725, contained ſixty thouſand inhabitants. This town is ſtrongly fortified; has eight churches: it has the direction of all the mines of Saxony: the ſilver mines here are the moſt profitable of any in Miſnia, and are as ancient as the year 1171: here alſo are mines of copper, tin, and lead; the net profits of all which mines did, in the year 1630, yield no leſs than three millions ſeven hundred and twenty-five thouſand three hundred and thirty-ſeven florins, and from that year to 1708, upwards of nine millions of rix-dollars. Here alſo is a foundery for cannon and for bells; a ſulphur and vitriol houſe, and manufactures of thread and lace. Here, ſays Dr. Buſching, is a gymnaſium with eight teachers, a public library, and ſeveral charitable foundations.

2. Chemnitz was of old an imperial city. It is at preſent a good town, having a citadel, and three churches; and has many ſtuff and linen weavers; as have likewiſe ſundry ſmaller towns in this diſtrict.

3. Altenburg's rich tin mine is thought to yield the beſt tin, next to thoſe of England and Bohemia. Here alſo are many other ſmall mine towns, where ſilver, lead, and tin are digged, and where ſulphur, vitriol, alum, and arſenic are prepared; where alſo are iron forges, and black and white tinned iron plates, ſent in great quantities to Leipzig, and thence down the Elbe to Hamburg, and thence again to Amſterdam, London, and other parts. Here alſo are made coarſe cloth, lace, &c. Many of thoſe mine towns were originally peopled in the ſeventeenth century, by perſecuted Proteſtants, driven out by the bigotry of the houſe of Auſtria from the neighbouring parts of Bohemia.

4. Zwickaw, on the Muldau, formerly alſo an imperial city, is ſtill one of the largeſt towns in Miſnia, having a citadel, and three pariſh churches: it has a manufactory of woollen cloth, of wool cards, and ſhoe leather. Here alſo they trade in timber, iron, pit coal, ſand ſtone, marble and corn.

In Voigtland circle is Plauen, the head town of it, having a citadel, and two churches. Its manufactures are of woollen and cotton; and here alſo is cotton printing. Here are alſo ſome few ſmaller towns, dealing in woollen cloth and braſs wares, and having many iron founderies.

Newſtadt, on the Orla, is the head of its circle, has a citadel and two churches; and Weyda the like: at theſe two are manufactured fine calimancoes, camblets, and other woollen ſtuffs.

In the Foundation, as it is called by the Saxons, of Merſeburg is Merſburg, a town on the Sala, has a Lutheran chapter, a cathedral, and three pariſh churches, although its principal trade conſiſts only in a kind of ſtrong beer, which is exported to many diſtant parts. In this diſtrict are ſome other ſmall and inconſiderable towns and villages.

In the Biſhopric of Naumburg is,

Naumburg, on the Sala, having a Lutheran chapter, three churches, and a citadel: it has an annual fair, with conſiderable privileges. And Zeits, on the Elſter, has four churches, and a woollen manufactory.

In the principality of Anhault, are mines of lead, copper, iron, and ſilver; alſo coals, ſulphur, alum, vitriol, and ſaltpetre: here are alſo grain, hops, and ſome wine.

Deſſau, its capital, has two Calviniſt churches, and one Lutheran church, ſeveral charitable foundations, and the Prince's palace. Here are good manufactures of woollen cloth, ſtockings, and hats. Bernburg, on the Sala, is the capital of a principality of that name, contains three churches: and Cothen and Zerbſt are alſo pretty good towns: where are manufactures of gold and ſilver ſtuffs.

Quedlinburg, an ancient imperial abbey, which embraced Lutheraniſm, in the year 1539, is under the patronage of the King of Pruſſia. The abbeſs, as ſuch, is a Princeſs of the empire, having a ſeat and vote in the diets.

Quedlinburg city, on the Bode, has a court of juſtice belonging to the abbey, and a magiſtracy ſubject to the abbey; has four or five churches, and ſeveral charitable foundations.

Arnſtadt on the Gera, the head of the principality of Swartzburgh, has three churches; and poſſeſſes ſome braſs, iron, and ſaltpetre works.

Frankenhauſen has four churches and ſome charitable foundations. Its numerous ſalt works are ſome of the moſt famous in all Germany, and are the principal means of its proſperity.

The county of Mansfield contains ſome mines of copper and of ſilver ore. The town of that name is now quite inconſiderable; but the town of Eizleben has four pariſh churches and one thouſand houſes; ſome hundreds of which, ſays Dr. Buſching, are brewhouſes.

THE CIRCLE OF LOWER SAXONY.

The dutchy of Mecklenburg is generally Lutheran in religion, interſperſed with ſome Calviniſt churches.

It abounds in many large and ſmall lakes, and in large and deſolate heaths, moors, woods, fens, and quarries. Half the country is of a ſandy ſoil; and even its paſtures and meadows make but an indifferent appearance, when compared with thoſe of Holſtein and Pomerania, on each ſide of it. Others indeed, ſays Dr. Buſching, ſpeak more favourably of this country. It contains ſalt ſprings, alum, iron, and ſome copper. It has ſome woollen manufactures, tanned leather dreſſers. It exports corn, flax, hemp, hops, wax, honey, wool, timber, cattle, butter, and cheeſe. The entire annual revenue of Mecklenburg-Schwerin is eſtimated at three hundred thouſand rix-dollars: that of the Strelitz line about one hundred and twenty-ſix thouſand rix-dollars. To the Strelitz line alſo belong the ſmall town and principality of Ratzburg.

Towns in Mecklenburg-Schwerin are

1. Schwerin, the ducal reſidence, on a lake of the ſame name. It is built nearly ſquare.
2. Domitz, a ſmall fortified town, at the confluence of the Elde into the Elbe, where a toll of very conſiderable produce is collected.
3. The bailiwick of the church village named Mecklenburg, in the neighbourhood of Wiſmar, once a great town, which, ſince the building of Wiſmar, has inſenſibly dwindled to a mean village. In this neighbourhood are ſalt works and alum.
4. Guſtrow, the beſt town of its diſtrict, containing a cathedral, pariſh church, and ducal palace.

5. Roſtock, though a free and imperial city, and formerly a famous Hans-town, is ſituated within this dutchy, on the river Warno; and is by far the largeſt town in both dutchies, and thought to be nearly equal to Lubeck in magnitude. Its haven has a ſmall town, named Warnemund, very convenient for commerce. Roſtock has an univerſity, partly ſubject to the city, and, in part alſo, ſubject to the Duke; it has ſeven churches, a Lutheran convent for young ladies natives of this city, and ſeveral other charitable foundations. It ſtill carries on a conſiderable commerce, and has a diſtrict with ſome ſmall towns and villages circumjacent. One of its chief trades is in fine beer.

6. New Brandenburg has two churches and a grammar ſchool, and great quantities of hops are raiſed in its neighbourhood.

7. Strelitz, though in a marſhy neighbourhood, is the reſidence of the Duke of that name; but is not eminent for commerce.

8. At the peace of Weſtphalia, the once eminent city of Wiſmar, in this dutchy, was ceded to the crown of Sweden. Notwithſtanding its great declenſion from its ancient glory, when it was the rendezvous of the Hanſeatic fleets, it has ſtill ſix churches, a grammar ſchool, with eight maſters; and ſtill enjoys a moderate trade, being one of the beſt and largeſt places in all theſe countries, ſituated on a bay of the Baltic ſhore. It has a ſmall diſtrict of villages and farms, and was very ſtrong till unfortunately diſmantled by the Danes, in the year 1717, in their war with Sweden. It is at preſent principally noted for brewing of excellent mum.

The dutchy of Holſtein, with the lordſhip of Pinneberg, and the town of Altona, have ſeveral manufactures, particularly at Altona and Gluckſtadt; beſide the very numerous and important ones of the city of Hamburg; which city, and that of Lubeck, do, however, ſupply the inhabitants with the bulk of foreign merchandize.

Holſtein's exports are grain, malt, ſtarch, rape ſeed, horned cattle, horſes, fiſh, poultry, ſheep, butter, and cheeſe.

As Holſtein partly belongs to Denmark, and partly to the preſent Empreſs of Ruſſia, we ſhall follow Dr. Buſching's method in its deſcription, beginning with what belongs to Denmark.

1. Gluckſtadt is a well built town and fortreſs, in a marſhy ſituation, on the right of the Elbe, in which is a Lutheran, a Calviniſt, and a Romiſh church, and a Jews ſynagogue. It has ſome foreign commerce.

2. Itzehoe has two churches, and ſome charitable foundations; it ſtands on the navigable part of the river Stor, which gives name to that part of Holſtein named Stormar. At this town King Chriſtian VI. inſtituted a college of commerce, in the year 1738.

3. Rendſburg, a town and fort on the river Eyder, of two pariſh churches, and ſix hundred houſes, a royal armory and granary. Here alſo are ſeveral other inconſiderable towns in Wagria county, in a marſhy ſoil.

The ducal, or Ruſſian, Holſtein, Dr. Buſching thinks to be about half as much as Daniſh Holſtein, above deſcribed; yet it brings in a revenue of two hundred thouſand rix-dollars.

1. Kiel, its capital, is ſituated on a Bay of the Baltic, with a convenient harbour. It is a well built populous town, is pretty well frequented by ſhips from Sweden and other parts, has a ducal palace, two churches, a chapel, and univerſity. "The proſperity of this town," ſays Dr. Buſching, "is not a little promoted by the annual meetings of the nobility and perſons of wealth in "Holſtein and Sleſwig, for the transferring, placing out, and re-demanding of their monies; this "pecuniary intercourſe laſting eight days: and at the ſame time alſo is held a conſiderable fair." Kiel was anciently an Hans-town.

In Holſtein are ſeveral Lay-Lutheran convents for ladies, under the direction of Lady Abeſſes or Prioreſſes, who ſtill poſſeſs all the old privileges of the times of popery, as well as the old revenues and juriſdictions over their villages and farms; being literally more uſeleſs drones than even the real nuns of Popiſh convents.

In Ducal Holſtein, there are ſeveral other ſmall market towns, of little importance; which therefore we paſs over, as well as many villages.

In the county of Pinneberg, which is neither reckoned in Ducal nor Daniſh Holſtein, lies the town of Altona, belonging to Denmark, in a moſt delightful country, on a high ſhore of the right of the Elbe, not above a cannon ſhot from the city of Hamburg. It contains above three thouſand houſes, and upwards of thirty thouſand inhabitants. It has two Lutheran and two Calviniſt churches, two Mennonite churches, one French Calviniſt church, and one Popiſh church, beſide ſome other ſects, here wiſely permitted the free exerciſe of their religion, as are alſo the Jews, who are very numerous here, and have a large ſynagogue; for which, and for their entire protection, they pay the crown two thouſand ducats annually. Here is a royal illuſtrious ſchool, an anatomical theatre, and ſeveral charitable foundations. In this ſad eye-ſore to Hamburg, is a great variety of manufactures and fabrications; three docks for ſhip building, its trade being very conſiderable. It was but a village till after the year 1640, when, together with the town and lordſhip of Pinneberg, it came under the dominion of Denmark, when it ſoon increaſed to a town, and, in 1664, it obtained a charter of incorporation. It is ſaid to bring in to that crown a yearly revenue of twenty-ſeven thouſand rix-dollars, more likely to increaſe than diminiſh.

There are two noble and free imperial cities ſtill to be deſcribed, which, though belonging to neither Daniſh nor Ducal Holſtein, are nevertheleſs ſituated within the bounds or compaſs of that country, viz.

The imperial, free, and Hanſeatic city of Hamburg ſtands on the verge of that part of Holſtein called Stormar, about eighteen German, or about ſeventy-two Engliſh, miles from the influx of the great river Elbe into the ocean. That river, the ſmall iſles in it being included, is at this city about a German mile in breadth; and, beſide its forming two ſpacious harbours, runs through moſt part of the city in canals, wherein the ſhips moſt conveniently lay before the merchants doors. In theſe canals, as well as four German miles up that river, above Hamburg, the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours: in this reſpect ſaid to excel all other European rivers. Over thoſe canals are eighty-four bridges, on ſome of which are houſes on each ſide, as if they were only ſhort croſs ſtreets; in this, as well as in other reſpects, reſembling the city of Amſterdam. In the numerous ſtreets and more numerous lanes of this city, many families live together in one houſe; ſo that the circuit of this city is by no means proportioned to the number of its inhabitants: for round its ramparts it is but an eaſy two hours walk, or about ſix Engliſh miles in compaſs: yet, within that compaſs, the number of its inhabitants is eſtimated to be one hundred thouſand, excluſive of the many Jews living here, and ſurely there is nothing extraordinary in all this computation. Mr. Nugent, (in our opinion nearer the mark,) thinks that city contains thirty thouſand high houſes, and, allowing only ſix perſons to each houſe on an average, then there ſhould be one hundred and eighty thouſand people in Hamburg, including the Jews. On a calculation taken of the inhabitants of Hamburg, ſays Dr. Buſching, compared with thoſe of ſeveral other large cities, and made from their regiſters of births and burials, they are found to be to thoſe of Paris as one is to four;—to thoſe of Amſterdam as four is to ſeven;—to thoſe of Vienna as eight is to thirteen;—and to thoſe of Copenhagen nearly on a par. Yet after all this, it muſt be admitted that there is great uncertainty in the exact magnitude, &c. of all great cities.

The regulations in this city for preventing of fires,—in point of proviſion for the poor,—for idiots, lunatics, and for proſtitutes, are greatly admired by ſtrangers, as well as its many alms-houſes and hoſpitals,—its ſchools for the education of poor children,—for providing plenty of all things eatable, in ſix large market-places,—its ſtore-houſes, docks, and yards, for ſhip-building,—its armory and arſenal, &c.—Theſe are all great in their ſeveral kinds, as are alſo their churches; ſo that Hamburg is juſtly eſteemed a very well regulated republican conſtitution, with its ſmall adjacent territory, and as independent as its more potent neighbours will permit it to be. It has, however, one eſſential miſtake in its conſtitution, (of which miſtake its too near neighbour makes conſiderable advantage) in not admitting the free exerciſe of religion to any perſuaſion but their own Lutheran one, excepting at the chapels of foreign miniſters, and at our Britiſh factory of the Merchants-adventurers Company, which here enjoys many valuable privileges. Near the mouth of the Elbe, Hamburg poſſeſſes the bailiwick and caſtle of Ritzbuttel, with a few adjoining hamlets, and a ſpacious haven, called Cuxhaven, where, in caſe of ſtorms, ſhips find a ſafe retreat; and on a little fortified iſland near it, called the Nieuwerk, are beacons and a light houſe, for the ſafety of ſhipping; and, by the permiſſion of Denmark, they maintain another light-houſe on the iſland of Helegland, near the mouth of the Elbe:—By means of that river, Hamburg ſupplies a very great part of Germany with all kinds of foreign merchandize; by the rivers Havel and Spree, and by a canal from the Spree into the Oder, its commerce is extended from Brandenburg into Sileſia, Moravia, Auſtria, and Poland. This city may be termed the magazine of Germany, and in ſome meaſure alſo of the other countries on the Baltic ſhore.

Of its numerous manufactures, ſugar refining is a principal one; alſo manufactures of woolen, linen, ſtockings, cotton, wrought ſilks, gold-thread, ribbons, velvets, &c. Its vaſt dealings in wine, tobacco, drugs, ſpices, metals, grain, leather, timber of many ſorts, fiſh, train-oil, furs, ſkins; the multitudes of its real merchants and brokers, (Jews as well as Chriſtians) are beſt to be judged of at their exchange time.

There is a ſtanding commiſſion of merchants, for the examination of commercial concerns, named the commercium, at the place next the exchange, where the commercial library is kept; and if (ſays Doctor Buſching) the books of this library are not very numerous, they are nevertheleſs all valuable for their uſefulneſs.

The ſpecie-bank was erected in the year 1619, and for its prudent regulations and inviolated credit, is by no means inferior to any, even the moſt flouriſhing. Its granaries are always kept well ſtocked, for ſupplying the poor at low rates. Here is an illuſtrious ſchool, with ſix profeſſors, who read lectures as in Univerſities, and has a large library. The ordinary military force of the city conſiſts of twelve companies of foot and one troop of dragoons, beſide an artillery company, and a nightly guard, which parades, and is ſtationed every evening, and in the night calls the reſpective hours. Within the juriſdiction or territory of Hamburg, which is about ten miles in circuit, are ſeveral pleaſure houſes, villages, and eſtates; and the little town of Bergedorf with the Veerlande, are held in common with Lubec, with which city Hamburg has a communication by a canal to the river Trave.

England ſupplies Hamburg and other Hans-towns, with immenſe quantities of wollen goods, tin, lead, tobacco, hard-ware, Eaſt India and American productions, &c. according to ſome, to conſiderably more than one hundred thouſand pounds per annum; whilſt others (we doubt too exaggeratingly) carry it much further, even to ſeveral hundred thouſands. Upon the whole, the commerce of this ſingle city alone may be truly ſaid to ſurpaſs that of ſome conſiderable kingdoms; and Britain being ſo eminently intereſted therein, has occaſioned our enlarging ſo fully upon it.

The Lutheran Archbiſhopric of Lubeck lies in that part of Holſtein more anciently named Wagria. The archbiſhop is always elected, by its chapter, either out of the royal family of Denmark, or the ducal family of Holſtein. His place of reſidence is at Eutin, a ſmall town pleaſantly ſeated on a lake; but neither he nor his chapter have any authority in Lubec, although the collegiate church lies within that city. To its chapter, however, belong ſome bailiwicks and villages in their territory.

The free, beautiful and imperial city of Lubec ſtands on the river Trave, which, above the city, receives the Steckenitz, by means whereof it communicates with the river Elbe; and below it, it receives the Wakenitz, iſſuing from the lake of Batteſburg, and joining the Schuartau, in its progreſs, it falls into the Baltic at Travemund, the proper port of Lubec. By means of thoſe ſeveral ſtreams, long and flat-bottomed veſſels paſs from the Baltic along the Trave, the Steckenitz, and the Elbe, into the German ocean.

Lubec is a well fortified city, and though much decayed from its priſtine grandeur, is ſtill rich and potent in ſhipping and commerce. It has about twenty Lutheran churches, with lofty ſteeples, with one Calviniſt and one Romiſh church, a Lutheran nunnery, many hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations. Lubec was anciently (and is ſtill) the head of the Hanſeatic confederacy, where their ſeveral deputies uſed to meet:—and although the great bulk of that confederacy be long ſince diſſolved, yet the remains of it ſtill ſubſiſt in the confederacy of the three cities of Lubec, Hamburg, and Bremen, under the deſignation of the Hanſeatic union:—they negociate commercial treaties with foreign ſtates, and are even in modern treaties, between other potentates, frequently included therein, and had their agent or envoy at the famous treaty of Utrecht, in the year 1713. And the late emperor Francis (according to Dr. Buſching) in his capitulation, (as it is ſtiled) on his acceſſion to the imperial throne, ſolemnly engaged, "To countenance, ſupport, and defend, in their "navigation, traffic, rights, and immunities, according to the *Inſtrumentum Pacis*, all trading towns "in general, particularly the above-named three cities, from whoſe maritime commerce, the public "reaps ſuch great advantages." Lubeck's above-deſcribed ſituation is extremely commodious for commerce. It has a garriſon of eight hundred men; was the firſt city of the north or middle parts of Europe that erected water-conduits in their ſtreets, with pipes for ſupplying of private houſes therein; which convenience was very early followed by London and other cities. Lubec has alſo divers good manufactures:—amongſt the dependancies of this famous city is Travemund, a ſmall town with a fort, garriſon, and a light-houſe, at the influx of the Trave into the Baltic, beſides ſeveral other bailiwicks and villages, comprehending in its territory, of about ſixty Engliſh miles in circuit: Bergedorf is a ſmall town on the Elbe, belonging (as we have related) in common to Lubec and Hamburg, with a toll-houſe and ferry. Lubec is two miles in length, and one in breadth, and is deemed the neateſt city of all the north parts of Germany. It has a ſtadthouſe, wherein are repoſited the archives of the Hans-towns; an exchange, and an arſenal; and Mr. Nugent thinks it has ſtill one hundred and fifty ſhips of its own, trading to all the ports within the Baltic, &c. of whoſe merchandize they have always here large magazines. The chief home commodity of Lubec is corn, and alſo beer, which is in ſuch great eſteem, that much of it is exported to foreign parts, and is alſo uſed medicinally for wounds and bruiſes.

Above the territory of Hamburg, lies the dutchy of Saxe-Lauenburg, ſubject to the Elector of Hanover. Doctor Buſching thinks it contains thirty-ſix thouſand people, but has no manufactures, and only exports corn, butter and cheeſe, wool, wood for fuel, and ſome fiſh. It has two ſmall towns, viz. Ratzburg, a ſtrong place on an iſland in a lake; and Lauenburg near the Elbe, on which it has ſome trade in corn and wood; with many villages.

In all the dominions of the Electorate of Hanover, there were in the year 1756, computed to be near ſeven hundred and fifty thouſand people, living in fifty-eight cities, ſixty market towns, and very many villages, and ſingle farms. In general, its ſeveral countries yield plenty of all the neceſſaries of life; grain and pulſe, good fruits, flax, hemp, madder, woad, tobacco, wood, horſes, ſheep, horned cattle, ſulphur, vitriol, marble, ſtone, coal, iron, lead, copper and ſilver mines, very rich ſalt ſprings, alſo manufactures of ſtarch and powder, linen, thread, and damaſk, ribbons, lace, carpets, cotton worked up into gloves, ſtockings, caps, and dimities; tanned leather, woollen cloths, and ſtuffs of various kinds, ſilk manufactures, ſilver and gold thread, ſugar-refineries, glaſs-houſes, paper and powder mills, iron, copper, and braſs manufactures, fire arms, wax bleaching; and many other manufactures and productions.

We are next to croſs the river Elbe, into the Dutchy of Bremen, and Principality of Verden, ſubject to the Elector of Hanover; and we ſhall firſt ſurvey the free and imperial city of Bremen, the third and leaſt of the ſtill remaining Hans towns.

The city of Bremen lies moſtly on the north or right ſide of the river Weſer. "In the year 1744," (according to Doctor Buſching) "all its buildings and inhabitants were ſomewhat remarkably numbered, whereby its magnitude may be nearly aſcertained, viz. In the old and new towns were counted four thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight inhabited houſes, and five hundred and ſixty-five other buildings, ſuch as, meuſes, brewhouſes, ſtorehouſes, &c. alſo three hundred and eighty-ſeven inhabited cellars:—four thouſand and ninty-nine married couples; *i. e.* one thouſand five hundred and eighty-nine Calviniſts, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-two Lutherans, ſix hundred and twenty-nine mixed; eighty-one Papiſts, and twenty-eight mixed; two hundred and eighteen widowers; one thouſand two hundred and thirty-nine widows; two hundred and thirty-three ſingle men houſekeepers, and three hundred and fifty-nine ſingle women houſekeepers. In the old town, which is the largeſt and moſt populous, are four capital Calviniſt churches, as alſo the cathedral, poſſeſſed by the Lutherans; there is alſo the convent of St. John, with its church, the celebrated academical gymnaſium of the Calviniſts, with its ſpacious library; the pedagogium, the town-hall, the exchange, the armory; the hoſpital, with its anatomical theatre; the correction-houſe, the work-houſe, the fulling-mill, &c. In the new town and ſuburbs are three more Calviniſt churches, the Calviniſt being the religion of the magiſtrates, and conſequently the eſtabliſhed religion, though in point of numbers the Lutherans nearly equal them." By this account it is probable, that the city and ſuburbs of Bremen may nearly contain fifty thouſand inhabitants, more or leſs. They maintain a garriſon of about ſix hundred men:—Here are ſeveral good manufactures, and a very conſiderable foreign commerce; the inhabitants exporting great quantities of ſtrong beer, corn, minerals, pickled and dried ſalmon, lampreys, wool, great quantities of Oſnaburg linens, particularly to England, in return for woollen goods, &c. timber, leather, paving ſquare ſtones; ſo that Bremen is now, in the opinion of ſome, probably the next beſt port in Germany, after Hamburg, in point of foreign commerce; though others think Stetin and Lubeck may vie with it in that reſpect. Yet ſhips of burthen are obliged to lade and unlade at a place three or four German miles further down the Weſer. The Elector of Hanover, as ſovereign of the dutchy, pronounces ſentence in capital caſes, with certain ceremonies. To this city belongs a territory, containing many villages, particularly Vegeſack, a village having a harbour on the Weſer.

The dutchy of Bremen and principality of Verden are, in general, flat, ſwampy, and level countries, watered on three ſides by the ocean, and by the Elbe and Weſer, excepting the ſmall bailiwick of Ritſbuttel, ſubject to Hamburg; and on the eaſt bordering on the dutchy of Lunenburg. Beſide cordage and linen, they make ſeveral ſorts of woollen cloth, flannel, kerſies, &c. at Scharmbeck.—At Aumund they have a ſugar refinery and a porcelain manufactory. Beſide Bremen, here is,

Firſt, The ſmall fortified town of Stade, or Staden, on the river Schwinge; it is about an Engliſh mile up from the Elbe, has three churches, and a Latin ſchool, where formerly ſtood a monaſtery; yet it is conſiderably decayed from what it once was.

Second, Buxtehude is at preſent a ſmall open town near the Elbe, having only one pariſh church, to which belong three paſtors.

The dutchy of Verden, though reckoned within the circle of Weſtphalia, yet being joined with the dutchy of Bremen, under one Hanoverian Regency, we judged it beſt to come in here. It is a healthy high land.

Verden is a decayed town, with four churches, on the Aller, and neither it nor the few other towns in this country, nor its many villages, are particularly eminent in a commercial or manufactural ſenſe. What manufactures they have are chiefly linen and thread.

In the principality of Lunenburg-Zell, ſubject to the Elector of Hanover, are three large towns, viz. Lunenburg, Velſen, and Zell, with eleven ſmaller, and thirteen burghs, or large villages.

1. Lunenburg, with its fortified capital, has three pariſh churches, about thirteen hundred houſes, and near nine thouſand inhabitants; with three hoſpitals, a princely palace, and town-houſe, a library, an armory, an houſe of correction, and an academy. Here are fifty-four ſalt-houſes without its walls, containing two hundred and ſixteen pans of ſalt, each ſalt-houſe being eſtimated at forty thouſand rix-dollars annually. Lunenburg exports ſalt, lime, beer, wax, honey, wool, flax, linen, and frize. Merchandize are brought thither from all parts of Germany, and forwarded eight miles down the river Elmenau, to Hamburg, and alſo up the river Achſe to Lubeck.

2. Velzen, a town on the ſaid river Elmenau, which was navigable from hence to the Elbe; ſo that ſhips from England, according to Dr. Buſching, formerly traded here, and its ancient harbour is ſtill to be ſeen: in the great church is alſo ſhewn a ſhip of gilded copper, being a preſent to the town from the Engliſh. It has three churches, and as many alms-houſes, though the town is much declined. Its neighbourhood produces very fine flax.—Our author alleges its having acceded to the Hanſeatic Confederacy in the year 1451.

3. Zell, a fortified and well-built town on the river Aller, running, lower down, into the Weſer, and here begins to be navigable. It contains about fourteen hundred houſes, has a town-houſe, an armory, a ducal palace, ſeveral churches, hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations. Here are manufactures of various kinds, particularly in gold and ſilver, in good eſteem even in other countries.

4. Haarburg, a town of four hundred and ſeventy-two houſes, beſide thoſe of the nobility, on a ſmall river running into the Elbe; has a bailiwick and villages, with a fort or caſtle between it and the Elbe, a pariſh church, and a Latin ſchool: but it is too near to Hamburg to make any figure in commerce, although an unſucceſsful attempt, for that purpoſe, was made in the reign of King George I. Here is, however, a conſiderable wax-bleachery, ſugar-refinery, a ſtarch-manufactory, and manufactures of ribbons, cottons, ſtockings, and hats. It has a conſiderable trade in ſhip-timber to Holland, and has wool-combing and diſtillery. Haarburg is indeed very commodiouſly ſituated for trade, and for a navigation down the Elbe into the ocean: two paſſage-boats go every day between it and Hamburg, which city it ſupplies with many ſorts of proviſions, it lying oppoſite to that city. In its fort is a garriſon church, a prince's palace, an armory, magazine, barracks, and other buildings.

5. Danneberg, a ſmall and decayed town near the Elbe, beer-brewing being now its only trade.

6. Here we cannot well forget the poor remains of the once great city of Bardewic, on the Elmenau, near to Lunenburg. In the firſt volume of our work, under the year 1189, we have related its deſtruction by the great Henry, ſurnamed the Lion, Duke of Bavaria, Saxony, Brunſwick, &c. And although its preſent condition be very low, yet Dr. Buſching thinks its circuit far exceeds that of Lunenburg; although, excluſive of the buildings appertaining to the churches, the ſchool, and the abbey, its other houſes are not above one hundred and ſix in number. It is very ancient, was once a large city, and had nine churches.—Its abbey, upon the Reformation, turned Lutheran; whereupon its canons and vicars became ſecular, and were confirmed in their poſſeſſions.

In this dutchy are many ſmall burghs and villages, wherein great quantities of coarſe linen and thread are made, and are ſold at Hamburg.

In the principality of Grubenhagen, is its capital,

1. Eimbeck, a ſtrong town on the Ilme, near where it falls into the Leine. Here are manufactures of woollen cloth, and ſtuffs of many ſorts, and dimity, after the Berlin and Engliſh manner. It contains ſeven hundred and fifty-four private houſes, and ſeventy-ſeven public edifices, beſide eight hundred and fourteen granaries, ſtables, &c. three or four churches, a grammar-ſchool, with ſeven maſters; an orphan-houſe, an hoſpital, and two poor-houſes; beſide a Lutheran cathedral church, with a ſenior, nine canons, and five vicars.

2. Oſterode, a town of five hundred and eighty-two houſes, not far from the famous Hartz foreſt, has a caſtle, and three pariſh churches; a large granary for the uſe of the miners on the Brunſwick part of that foreſt. It is remarkable for its fine woollen cloths, great quantities of iron and copper ore, and a quarry of alabaſter.

3. Harzeberg, a large town on the Sieber, having a fine manufactory of arms, and other iron-works, of which great quantities are exported.—Here are alſo many linen looms.

The Hartz foreſt is a mountainous track of about fifty Engliſh miles in length, and twenty in breadth: but we here only treat of that part of it which belongs to Brunſwick and Lunenburg. Its abundance of wood is here the more valuable, as without it the many mines and forges could not ſubſiſt. Its minerals are yellow oker, vitriol, ſulphur, ſalt-petre, lapis calaminaris, zink, cobalt, (of which powder-blue is made) lead, borax, iron, copper, braſs, ſilver, and alſo ſome gold.—The produce of the mine-works, in or about the year 1724, amounted to about ſeven hundred and ſix thouſand rix-dollars, groſs amount; but the net money coming to the ſovereign amounted to but one hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand; and to the other proprietors or ſharers, one hundred and twenty thouſand; and in the Upper Hartz the ſovereign had fifty-three thouſand net: and the whole gold in the entire Hartz was two thouſand eight hundred and eighty rix-dollars; and in ſilver, four hundred and twenty-five thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-four rix-dollars, net.—The other products of this uncommon foreſt, the mine offices at Hanover and Wolfenbuttel take, at a ſtipulated price, making their returns in tallow, leather, and other neceſſaries for the mine-works.

The inhabitants of this romantic country conſiſt of miners, labourers in the ſmelting-houſes, wood-hewers, carriers, and the ſovereign's officers and ſervants, with clergy, ſchool-maſters, artificers, &c.

1. Clauſthal, the chief town of this foreſt, is a ſpacious open mine-town, of above nine hundred houſes, and ten thouſand inhabitants; having two churches, an orphan-houſe, and grammar-ſchool.

2, 3, 4. Altenau, St. Andreaſberg, and Cellerfeld, are ſmaller mine towns; the two latter, however, containing each about five hundred and fifty houſes. In each town is a houſe for ſmelting of ſilver: there are alſo ſeveral ſmaller ſmelting-towns in this diſtrict.

In the principality of Calenberg is,

I. Gottingen quarter.

Gottingen city contains about one thouſand houſes, and has one of the beſt conſtituted univerſities in all Germany, firſt erected by King George II. in the year 1734, by the name of the Univerſity of Georgia-Auguſta.

This city abounds with fine manufactures of woollen goods, ſilk and worſted ſtuffs, ribbons, ſtockings, leather, &c. but it has ſorely ſuffered by having been twice poſſeſſed by French troops.—Here are five pariſh churches. Since the erection of its univerſity, it has been much embelliſhed with new buildings, its ſtreets finely paved, and in winter illuminated: here alſo is a Calviniſt church, and ſeveral charitable foundations. It ſtands on a canal named the New Leine, which communicates with the river Leine, and ranks as the chief of four larger towns of this principality.

II. The Hanover quarter contains,

1. Hanover, the capital city of the principality of Calenberg, and of the whole electorate. It ſtands on the left ſhore of the river Leine, is well fortified, and contains about twelve hundred houſes, of which many are palaces, and many more are large and handſome edifices. Here is a fine newly erected electoral palace, in the church of which is kept a treaſure of great value, conſiſting of reliques, gold and ſilver plate, and gems, collected by the great Duke Henry the Lion, in his journey to the Eaſt, in the year 1171, &c. In this city is the Elector's armory, fine ſtables, &c. and four pariſh churches, ſeveral hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations; a French Calviniſt church, a Romiſh church, and a Jews ſynagogue. Here are alſo abundance of fine manufactures of the woollen, linen, ſilk, and cotton kinds, and numerous artificers, painters, and other artiſts of various kinds. Its neighbourhood makes a fine appearance, with the palace and elegant gardens of Herenhauſen, beſide the many elegant country-ſeats and pleaſant gardens.

3. Nordheim is the third in order, of the four greater towns of this principality, ſituated on the Ruhme, which runs into the Leine. It contains five hundred houſes, and, beſide a ſecularized Lutheran abbey, has one pariſh church, and ſome charitable foundations. It alſo enjoys ſome manufactures.

III. In the Hamelen and Lauvenau quarter, is,

4. Hamelen, a fortified town on the right of the Weſer, being the fourth in rank amongſt the four larger towns of the principality of Calenberg. It contains two churches, ſix hundred burghers houſes, beſide about fifty eccleſiaſtical and other public edifices, a French Calviniſt church, and ſeveral charitable foundations. Here are ſilk manufactures, ſtockings, alſo linen and thread, of which they export a great deal: a ſecular Lutheran lay-abbey here retains all its ancient eſtates and prerogatives. Amongſt the leſſer towns is Munden, on the river Fulda, ſoon falling into the Weſer, containing ſix hundred and ſeventy houſes, two Lutheran churches, and one Calviniſt one; has ſilk and damaſk manufactures, vinegar-makers, &c. It has a conſiderable river navigation and trade on the Fulda and Weſer, to and from Caſſel, Thuringia, Saxony, Franckfort, &c. Yet ſo unreaſonable are the old monopolies, that none but burghers of Munden muſt trade or navigate up the Fulda. In this quarter are many ſmaller towns and villages, in which their chief manufactures are thread and linen, of which they ſend great quantities to Bremen and Hamburg, for foreign exportation.

Theſe are all the more immediately contiguous territories belonging to the electorate of Hanover.

In the dutchy of Brunſwick is the principality of Wolfenbuttel, and alſo part of the famous Hartz foreſt, and of the mine and ſalt-works there, held in common with the Duke of Brunſwick-Lunenburg, of which we have already treated ſufficiently. The ſouth part is mountainous, but with great plenty of timber and iron, alſo glaſs-houſes, and a fine porcelain manufacture. The north parts abound in grain, flax, hemp, fruits; and of late raw ſilk has been cultivated by Duke Charles; who, in the year 1750, made a navigable canal between Wolfenbuttel and Brunſwick.

1. The city of Brunſwick is a large fortified place, the capital reſidence of the Sovereign. It ſtands on the river Ocker, has an univerſity erected by Duke Charles, in 1745. Here are many noble ſtructures, and polite as well as charitable foundations and theatres, two gymnaſiums, ten Lutheran churches, one Dutch, one French Calviniſt church, and a Roman Catholic church.—The city has a variety of ingenious artizans, and ſeveral manufactures and fabrications; with two very conſiderable annual fairs. It was of old a principal or head town of the Hanſeatic League, in thoſe times governed in the form of a republic. This city is alſo famous for the liquor called mum, of which, and of tanned leather, they export great quantities.

2. Wolfenbuttel is a conſiderable fortified town, ſtanding on the river Ocker, but in a low and marſhy country, yet contains many handſome houſes. The gymnaſium here is ſtiled the Duke's great ſchool: here is one of the nobleſt libraries in all Europe, ſeveral churches, a caſtle, armory, and ſeveral charitable foundations, with ſome manufactures. Both in Brunſwick and Wolfenbuttel, as well as in many other parts of Lower Saxony, are ſeveral Lutheran ſecularized convents and nunneries, performing no religious offices, though enjoying all their ancient revenues and prerogatives. In this principality are ſeveral iron and braſs founderies, copper flatting-mills, ſalt-works, braſs-wire-works, &c.

3. Helmſtadt, though not eminent for commerce, is famous for its univerſity; has three pariſh churches, and other public and charitable foundations.

The principality of Halberſtadt is ſubject to the King of Pruſſia. It is a level and very fertile country in grain, cattle, ſheep, and flax; here are nearly an equal number of Lutherans, Calviniſts, and Roman Catholics. It contains ſeveral towns, and a great number of burghs and villages. Its woollen manufactures are in a thriving way. This principality, Doctor Buſching thinks, yields to the King of Pruſſia a revenue of about five hundred thouſand rix-dollars.

1. Halberſtadt, its capital, was in times of Popery, an eminent biſhopric; and although its induſtrious lay inhabitants do not at preſent exceed thirteen hundred in number, ſays Doctor Buſching, yet it is plentifully ſupplied with eccleſiaſtics and their retinues; for it has a large cathedral with a dean, a ſenior, ſixteen canons, four of which are Popiſh, and the reſt are Lutherans, eight minor canons, and twenty-two elects; ſixteen churches, of which four are Lutheran collegiate ones, and moſt of the reſt are alſo Lutheran; one German, and one French Calviniſt church.—Here are three Popiſh convents of monks, and two nunneries; alſo a Jewiſh ſynagogue; and many ſchools and charitable foundations. In the year 1758, the French treated this place in their wonted manner, by demoliſhing moſt of its walls and gates. Of its commerce little can be ſaid, excepting what manufactures have been introduced by the French refugees, being ſuch as they have propagated in the other Brandenburg dominions.

2. Aſcherſleben forms the ſecond ſtate town of this principality, having three churches, one of which is uſed by both the Lutherans and Calviniſts.

3. And Oſterwic, on the river Ilſe, is its third municipal town; and has ſeveral woollen manufactures.

The Dutchy of Magdeburg contains twenty-nine cities, ſix towns, and four hundred and thirty-one villages; and yields a revenue of above eight hundred thouſand rix-dollars to his Pruſſian Majeſty. Its chief places are,

1. The

1. The ancient and ſtill noble city of Magdeburg, on the Elbe, is one of the principal trading cities of Germany, as alſo a very ſtrong and capital fortreſs. It is well built, and its cathedral ſquare is ſo ornamented with large and elegant houſes as to make a grand appearance. In it is the King's palace, the Lutheran cathedral, three collegiate Lutheran churches, and ſix other Lutheran parochial churches, and a Lutheran lay-convent; three Calviniſt churches, viz. a German, French, and Walloon one, an hoſpital, alms and orphan houſe, maintained at the King's expence; an armory and a town houſe. In this city is a conſiderable variety of manufactures, much propagated and improved by the French refugees kindly received here in great numbers, viz. all ſorts of woollen cloths and ſtuffs, whole and half ſilk ſtuffs, cotton, linen, ſtockings, hats, fine gloves, tobacco, and ſnuffs, and immenſe quantities of ſalt works. Its ſituation on the Elbe, and being the road between Lower and Higher Germany, are very advantageous to its commerce; here being great magazines of various merchandize brought hither up the Elbe in flat bottomed veſſels from Hamburg, and from hence carried over land to Leipzig and other parts; on the other hand, there are vaſt quantities of timber brought hither down the Elbe for Hamburg. This, in ſhort, is one of the beſt and moſt beneficial provinces of the King of Pruſſia.

2. Burg is a town with four churches, and ſome good woollen manufactures.

3. Hall, on the river Saale, is a fortified city, containing fourteen thouſand inhabitants, beſide its garriſon and noted univerſity; having three Lutheran, and two Calviniſt churches, a Romiſh chapel, and a Jews ſynagogue; a Lutheran and a Calviniſt gymnaſium, each having a library; a free ſecular nunnery of Calviniſt ladies. The Calviniſts here are poſſeſſed of two hoſpitals, an alms houſe for the French Calviniſts, and other charity foundations. Here are various manufactures; as cloths, woollen, and ſilk ſtockings, gloves, printed flannels, frizes, fuſtians, porcelain, Hungary water, ſtarch, powder, gold, ſilver, and ſilk ribbons, fine red and yellow Turkey leather, pewter buttons, &c. ſalt ſprings, from which vaſt quantities are exported to many parts.

Glaucha, juſt without its walls, is chiefly famous for its celebrated orphan-houſe, founded by the famous and pious Doctor Franke, near the cloſe of the laſt century, of which much has been publiſhed in various languages.

In the biſhopric of Hildeſheim is much flax, hops, and ſalt, and alſo iron founderies. All its towns, and moſt of its nobility and villages, are Lutheran; as, on the other hand, the ſovereign-biſhop, the chapter, the convents, and almoſt all the epiſcopal officers, part of the nobility, towns and country, are Catholics. Here are but few manufactures, excepting ſome good linen, and ſome coarſe woollen, ſtockings, and porcelain, with all kinds of iron wares. It exports corn, wool, timber, linen, thread, ſalt, hops, &c.

1. Hildeſheim is a conſiderable large city; and although its magiſtrates and moſt of its burghers be Lutherans, yet in it is a college of Jeſuits, an abbey, a great cathedral and chapter, with ſix convents; here are however eight Lutheran pariſh churches, and a Lutheran gymnaſium, alſo a Jewiſh ſynagogue. The city was the capital reſidence of the great Duke Henry the Lion, from whom the Brunſwic family is deſcended; and the Elector of Brunſwic ſtill retains the hereditary patronage of it; and, as ſuch, keeps in this city a company of foot ſoldiers, though paid by the city, which acknowledges the Biſhop for its ſovereign, but pays him no homage; neither does he ever reſide here. The other towns are inconſiderable.

The principality of Blankenburg lies partly in the Hartz foreſt, and belongs to the Duke of Brunſwick-Wolfenbuttel: without that foreſt, it has good corn land, and in the foreſt fine marble, woods, and iron ore.

1. The imperial city of Goſlar lies on the river Goſe, running into the Ocker, near Hartz foreſt. It has four Lutheran pariſh churches, and three Lutheran convents. Its chief ſupport is from the neighbouring mines, and for ſupplying of beer and other provisions to that foreſt.

The imperial city of Mulhauſen, in Thuringia, lies on the river Unſtrut, it has two Lutheran churches, a Popiſh nunnery, and a ſmall diſtrict in the country.

The imperial city of Nordhauſen, in Thuringia, contains ſeven Lutheran churches, a Romiſh convent, and an orphan-houſe. It carries on a good trade in corn to the Hartz foreſt, diſtils great quantities of brandy, and is noted for its curious works in marble and alabaſter.

The circle of Weſtphalia is very extenſive, and, like moſt other countries, of various ſoils; ſome parts are very fertile, whilſt others are barren, heathy, and mountainous. It contains ſeveral good cities and towns, and a vaſt number of burghs and villages.

1. Paderborn is a very ancient and neat city and univerſity, in a fertile neighbourhood. It has a large territorial biſhopric. The city contains a cathedral and two pariſh churches, an abbey, a Jeſuits college, and five convents. It formerly carried on a great trade, but at preſent it is much decayed; what they have is chiefly of the linen kind. The other places of this biſhopric are inconſiderable.

The very large biſhopric of Munſter contains many towns, burghs, and villages, and is much employed in the linen manufactures. Its extent is about one hundred miles in length and ſixty in breadth; and revenue near three hundred thouſand rix-dollars to the Biſhop.

1. Munſter, its capital city, near the river Ems, is a very large walled city, much more eminent for its great number of churches, abbies, cloiſters, and other eccleſiaſtical foundations, than for commerce or manufactures; ſo that its vaſt number of eccleſiaſtics, with their dependents, is alone ſufficient to conſtitute a large city, as it truly is; being thought to contain near one hundred thouſand people.

2. Coesfeldt is the next beſt town in this biſhopric; has two pariſh-churches, a Jeſuits college, and five convents. It was of old a Hans-town; but now much decayed.

The biſhopric of Liege, although by many reckoned in the Auſtrian Netherlands, wherein we have in part treated of it, for contiguity's ſake, lies within the circle of Weſtphalia. It has a fertile ſoil, and in ſome parts of it yields wines reſembling the middling ſort of wines of Champagne and Burgundy; and has alſo conſiderable mine works of iron, copper, and lead; and yields pit coal and marble. It is the third in rank of the great Weſtphalian biſhoprics. It is ſubject to its own elective Biſhop and Prince; who, according to Morery, claims a right or ſovereignty over fifty-two baronies, eighteen walled towns, and four hundred villages.

1. Liege, in Dutch named Luyck, its capital, is a very large and well fortified city, on the left of the river Maeſe; contains a cathedral, ſeven collegiate and thirty-two pariſh churches, five abbies for men, and a like number for women, thirty-two cloyſters of both ſexes, two colleges of Jeſuits, now changed into ſeminaries, &c. ten hoſpitals, beſide other charitable foundations. The manufactures here are very conſiderable; conſiſting of ſerges and other ſtuffs; all ſorts of military weapons, nails, and leather; great numbers of brewers, its beer being much exported all round the country; there is pit coal in its neighbourhood, with which they ſupply Holland very much.

2. Huy, on both ſides the Maeſe, has a large collegiate church, ſeveral chapels, numerous convents, and ſome hoſpitals. It has iron works, and paper mills in its neighbourhood; which yields corn, wine, alum, ſulphur, and pit coal.

3. Dinant, higher up the Maeſe, is fortified; has eight churches, ſix cloiſters, a college which formerly belonged to the Jeſuits, and ſome hoſpitals. Its principal trade is in leather.

The biſhopric of Oſnaburg, or Oſnabruck, lies north of that of Munſter, between the rivers Weſer and Ems; being, according to Moll, about forty-five Engliſh miles in length, and twenty-five in breadth. It conſiſts of heath lands, but little wood; affording ſalt, pit coal, and much marble. The people are chiefly employed in ſpinning of linen yarn and thread, and the manufacture of vaſt quantities of coarſe linen, bearing the corrupt name of Oſnabrigs, to the value, according to Dr. Buſching, of above a million of rix-dollars annually; ſold to the Engliſh, Dutch, and Spaniards, for their Guinea and Weſt India commerce.

The city of Oſnaburg is a neat well built place. Here are ſome coarſe woollen manufactures, and a very great linen trade; here are alſo the beſt Weſtphalia hams. Its private houſes are about one thouſand two hundred in number, beſide many fine public edifices; a cathedral and a collegiate church, a college belonging formerly to the Jeſuits; and two Lutheran churches, two convents, and ſeveral hoſpitals or alms houſes. The revenue of its Biſhop is reckoned between twenty and thirty thouſand pounds ſterling.

The principality of Minden is ſubject to his Pruſſian Majeſty. It abounds in grain, flax, and pit coal; and exports much coarſe linen and linen yarn; makes linſey-woolſey cloth; has ſoap and ſugar houſes; breweries and diſtilleries. Under this principality are comprehended the counties of Ravenſberg, Lingen, and Tecklenburg, which are great linen countries.

At the city of Minden is an ancient cathedral church, (believed to have been the palace of Duke Wittikind, conquered by the Emperor Charlemagne) two Popiſh and four Proteſtant churches, ſome Popiſh cloiſters and charitable foundations. Here is a ſtocking manufacture, beſide the more conſiderable ones of linen, thread, &c. above ſpecified.

The dutchy of Verden, though within this circle, is already named next to that of Bremen, in Lower Saxony, for a reaſon there exhibited.

The dutchy of Cleves, belonging to the King of Pruſſia, has a rich ſoil, abounding in corn, cattle, &c. and its people are induſtrious and much given to trade, like their near neighbours of the United Netherlands, which is much advanced by the navigation on the Rhine and Maeſe.

Cleves is a moderately large town, containing five churches and three convents: and ſome years ſince eſtabliſhed a ſilk manufacture: but,

Weſel is the largeſt and ſtrongeſt town of this dutchy: has ſeveral Popiſh and Proteſtant churches and convents. It has ſome commerce, being commodiouſly ſituated for that end, on the eaſt ſide of the Rhine.

The county of Mark, ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, has a moſt fertile ſoil; abounds in grain, pulſe, flax, hemp, iron, ſalt, coals, lead, copper, and ſome ſilver ore.

1. Ham, is its capital town, moderately large, having three churches. It is famous for its fine linen bleacheries.

2. Altena, the largeſt town in this county, deals much in iron and wire.

3. Iſerlon, or alſo ſimply named Lon, is a place of good trade, though in a mountainous country; having five churches. Its manufactures are various ſorts of works of iron, and of braſs wire, needles, balance beams, buckles; woollen ſtuffs, and ſmall ſilk manufactures.

In this county are ſeveral leſſer towns and many villages; whoſe inhabitants are much employed in iron works, and ſome in coarſe woollen cloths.

The dutchies of Juliers, or Gulick, and Berg, ſubject to the Elector Palatine, have generally a fruitful ſoil, with much corn and wood; and their excellent horſes are exported to France and other countries: linen are alſo made here, known by the name of Gulicks.

Juliers, or Gulick, the capital of the firſt-named dutchy, has three churches. And here we may obſerve, that all the laſt-named dutchies and counties are almoſt equally intermixed with Popiſh, Lutheran, and Calviniſt churches.

The dutchy of Berg is generally mountainous, intermixed with many fruitful ſpots toward the Rhine; yielding ſome wine. Here are great quantities of timber, iron and other ores, and pit coal.

Duſſeldorp, or Duſſeldorf, is the beſt town in this dutchy. It is not large; but is ſtrong and populous. It ſtands on the Rhine, and ſends much corn down that river: is intermixed with Popiſh and Proteſtant churches, has a college and ſome convents, formerly belonging to the Jeſuits.

In this dutchy are many ſmall towns, and numerous villages, wherein are carried on manufactures of coarſe linen and woollen, and alſo metallic works.

The imperial city of Aix la Chapelle, in Dutch named Acken, lies between the dutchies of Juliers and Limburg; and is a large and beautiful city. It was formerly, and for a long time, reckoned the principal city of the empire, and the uſual reſidence of its emperors; having to this day the cuſtody of part of the jewels of the empire, which are uſed at the coronation of the Emperors, which coronations were formerly ſolemnized here; where alſo Charlemagne's ſword is kept. Here are thirty churches, twenty-one convents, and many charitable foundations. The city's territory is called the Kingdom of Aix la Chapelle, lying quite round it, and containing about two hundred villages. In the city and its territory are many manufactures of cloth, and of copper and braſs. Although there are many Proteſtants in this city, they are not permitted the public exerciſe of their religion, but, like Cologne and ſome other places, are obliged to go an hour's journey for that end. Here are rich mines of lead, vitriol, ſulphur, coals, and calamy ſtone. It is under the protection of the Elector Palatine as Duke of Juliers. Its mineral fountains draw hither a great concourſe of people from all parts.

The town and ſmall principality of Meurs abounds in corn, cattle, and veniſon, and belongs to the King of Pruſſia; and is environed with the dutchies of Berg and Cleves.

Meurs, its only town, is fortified, but in no other reſpect eminent.

The Electorate and Archbiſhopric of COLOGNE.

Its countries lie not contiguous, nor all of them in this circle; but are, many of them, ſeparated from each other by foreign territories. The principal and longeſt or furtheſt connected part of it lies on and near the Rhine, which river ſeparates it from the dutchy of Berg, and is above twenty German, or eighty Engliſh, miles in length.

1. The country properly called the dutchy of Weſtphalia, which is about ten German miles in length and eight in breadth, is for the moſt part ſubject to the Elector of Cologne, beſide ſeveral other leſſer proprietors of baronies, &c. But, although it has twenty-five ſmaller towns, and ten burghs or market towns, there ſeems to be no one place in it of any great conſequence in reſpect to commerce or manufactures.

2. The imperial city of Cologne on the Rhine is one of the largeſt cities of Germany; containing a grand cathedral, ten collegiate churches, nineteen pariſh churches, and about fifty chapels, four

abbies, ſeventeen monaſteries, thirty-nine nunneries, and ſixteen hoſpitals. It is the principal ſtaple for Rheniſh wines, and was of old a principal and important member of the Hanſeatic Confederacy: and although it continues ſhamefully to force its numerous Proteſtant inhabitants to reſort to Mulheim, in its neighbourhood, for the exerciſe of their religious worſhip, (by which bigotry, we have ſhewn, under the year 1688, they have ſo greatly thinned their inhabitants;) yet, through the happineſs of its ſituation, they have ſtill ſome manufactures of ribbons, ferrets, &c. and a conſiderable trade down the Rhine to Holland; although, for the above reaſon, it is become little better than a mere city of eccleſiaſtics and eccleſiaſtical edifices; and on that account, and from the multitude of the reliques of Saints, has obtained the appellation of the Holy City; ſome travellers having related, that there are in it as many churches and chapels as there are days in the year. It ſwears allegiance to every new Elector, ſo long as he continues to protect them in their juſt rights, privileges, and immunities.

The imperial city of Dortmund lies within the county of Mark; and contains four Lutheran churches, three convents, and an archi-gymnaſium or illuſtrious ſchool. It was formerly a Hanstown. Its territories has ſeveral villages and hamlets ſubject to it.

The county of Scauenburg, on the Weſer, belongs partly to Heſſe, partly to Lunenburg, and partly to the Count of Buckeburg; of which little more needs or rather can be ſaid.

The counties of Oldenburg and Delmenhorſt belong to the crown of Denmark. They lie near the ſouth ſide of the Weſer.—The town of Oldenburg is fortified, and has three churches; and Delmenhorſt, though ſmall, is yet fortified: but here is nothing eminent, in a commercial ſenſe.

The county of Lippe, ſubject to its own Count, is partly ſurrounded by the Biſhopric of Paderborn; within which, nevertheleſs, lies the county of Sternberg, ſubject to the Elector of Brunſwick Lunenburg; wherein much linen is made.

1. Lemgow, its beſt town, has three Proteſtant churches: alſo ſome woollen manufactures: but, though it was formerly a Hans-town, it is now ſomewhat decayed.

2. Lipſtadt, though giving name to this county, is a ſtrong town, ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, and carries on a good trade in preparing timber for building veſſels on the Rhine; with which river it has a communication by the river Lippe, on which it is ſeated.

The county of Bentheim belongs to its own Proteſtant Prince, and adjoins weſtward on the Netherland province of Overyſſel. It is pleaſant and fertile. Its people trade in yarn, linen, wool, honey, cattle, wood, and ſtone; chiefly tranſported to Holland.

Bentheim, its chief town, is a pretty large burgh, containing two churches.

The principality of Eaſt Frieſland, ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, lies in a low and moiſt air, much reſembling its near neighbouring Netherland provinces; having fat and rich paſture lands for the breeding of large cattle, oxen, and ſheep. Many of its horſes are carried to Rome, and there ſold at high prices for coaches. It alſo has fine linen manufactures.

Embden, its capital, is a large and ſtrong ſea-port, of conſiderable commerce, on the river Ems; having ſeveral pariſh churches, and an Aſiatic or Eaſt India Company, erected in the year 1750, by his preſent Pruſſian Majeſty.

In this principality are two other towns, ſeveral burghs, and many villages; but all the trade thereof centers in Embden.

The counties and towns of Tecklenburg and Lingen, ſubject to his Pruſſian Majeſty, lie next to the Biſhopric of Oſnaburg. They abound in corn and cattle, pit-coal and ſtone, as well as in large manufactures of linen, well known by the name of Tecklenberg linen.

Lingen is a town of three Calviniſt pariſh churches, and is the beſt town here; but the Roman Catholics being numerous here and in other neighbouring parts, his late Pruſſian Majeſty, Frederic-William granted them a limited toleration.

Ravenſberg, a county likewiſe ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, lies ſurrounded with the Biſhoprics of Munſter and Paderborn. Moſt of the people are employed in the ſpinning, weaving, and bleaching of fine and coarſe linen, ſent all over Europe, and alſo to America.

1. Bielfield, its chief town, contains four churches of different perſuaſions, a chapel, convent, ſome charitable foundations, and about eight hundred private houſes. This place has a very great linen manufacture, and likewiſe ſome manufactures of woollen cloths, ſtuffs, and ſtockings. It was once a Hans-town.

2. Herford is likewiſe a good town, nearly as large as the other. There are ſeveral other burghs and villages in this county, principally employed in the growing of flax, and in the manufacture of linen.

The county of Hoy, near the river Weſer, belonging to the Elector of Hanover, is much employed in the linen manufacture. Its capital, Hoy, contains one pariſh church and a citadel.

The ſmall adjoining county of Diepholtz is alſo much occupied in the linen manufacture; and is likewiſe ſubject to the Elector of Hanover.

Diepholtz, its principal town, is a large burgh; and there are here ſeveral other leſſer towns and many villages.

The ſmall county of Spiegelberg belongs to the Prince of Orange, Stadtholder of the United Netherlands; under the ſuperiority of the Elector of Hanover. But it is no way eminent for commerce, any more than the county and town of Rietberg, near the former county, belonging to Count Kaunitz-Rietberg.

The ſmall county of Pyrmont, next to the territory of Hanover, belongs to the Prince of Waldeck; who hereby enjoys a revenue of thirty thouſand rix-dollars, or ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty pounds ſterling; ariſing principally from its excellent mineral ſprings and ſalt-works.

Pyrmont, its only town, has nothing in it relating to our ſubject; but its citadel is reckoned ſtrong. Here are a few villages in this county.

The principality of Naſſau Siegen belongs to the Prince of Orange, to whom it yields a revenue of one hundred thouſand rix-dollars, or twenty-two thouſand five hundred pounds ſterling. It is very woody and mountainous; though it has ſome good arable lands, and numerous iron-works. Iron forges and its manufactures conſtitute the principal trade of this county, and of its capital town of Siegen and its villages.

The principality of Naſſau-Dillenburg lies next to the former, and is alſo ſubject to the Prince of Orange. It contains five towns and two burghs, beſide villages; and is alſo much the ſame in point of ſoil and productions as the former. Here are many iron forges, copper and lead mines, alſo ſome ſilver and vitriol.

Its chief town, Dillenburg, is fortified; contains but one church, two princely palaces, and a large park. This county is ſaid to yield a revenue of about one hundred and ſixty thouſand German florins, which, at two ſhillings and four pence each, amounts to twenty-one thouſand three hundred and thirty-three pounds ſterling.

The ſmall county and town of Naſſau-Hadamar belongs likewiſe to the Prince of Orange, with ſome other ſmall towns and villages: but neither Dr. Buſching, nor any other author we know of, has acquainted us with the revenue of this county, which, probably, may therefore be but inconſiderable.

THE CIRCLE OF THE LOWER RHINE.

It conſiſts of part of the eſtates of the three Spiritual or Eccleſiaſtical Electors—of the Duke of Aremberg—of the Elector Palatine—of the Prince of Taxis, and others.

The lands of the Elector of Mentz afford much and excellent Rheniſh wine, corn, ſalt, iron mines, almonds, cheſnuts, flax, and tobacco; and manufactures of woollen ſtuffs, linen, glaſs, and porcelain.

1. Mentz, its capital city, is ſituated on the Rhine where the river Maine falls into it; it is a ſtrong and populous old-faſhioned city, with a lofty cathedral, ſeven collegiate churches, ſeven pariſh churches, a college, ſixteen convents, ſix hoſpitals, a work-houſe, and an univerſity.—It is a place of great trade, more eſpecially in wines: having alſo manufactures of ſtuffs and ſtockings.

2. Aſchaffenburg, one of the beſt towns in this archbiſhopric, is the uſual reſidence of the Elector for part of the ſummer ſeaſon, in the citadel.

3. The city and territory of Erfurt, in Thuringia, already deſcribed under Upper Saxony, where it is ſituated.

4. The country of Eichsfeld produces corn, cattle, flax, and tobacco; and manufactures great quantities of ſerge and linen. It contains four towns and one hundred and fifty villages.

Duderſtadt, its beſt town, is known for beer-brewing, and dealing in tobacco, &c.

5. Bonn, upon the Rhine, is a town and fortreſs, being the uſual reſidence of the Elector of Cologne; though not in the circle of Weſtphalia. It is not large; but has many good houſes in it. Here are ſeveral cloiſters, three churches, and a college. It is not eminent for commerce, though ſo happily ſituated: becauſe of its being, in time of war with France, too much expoſed.

Andernach, Rens, &c. are ſmall but ſtrong towns, likewiſe ſituated on the Rhine. And we may here remark, for the information of ſome readers, that in Dr. Buſching's and other deſcriptions of towns in Germany, the word Town generally is to be underſtood to mean a walled and fortified place, and not an open borough.

In the Lower Archbiſhopric of Cologne is Nuys, or Neuſz, a ſmall fortified town near the Rhine, carrying on a briſk trade in deal boards and pit-coal.

The Palatinate of the Rhine, or the country of the Elector Palatine, otherwiſe known by the name of the Lower Palatinate, to diſtinguiſh it from that called the Upper Palatinate, in the circle of Bavaria; produces good corn, fruits, good Neckar and Rheniſh wines; fine paſturage, cattle, and tobacco.

1. Manheim is the modern place of reſidence of the Elector Palatine. It is a ſtrong fortreſs, near the influx of the Neckar into the Rhine; and is now become one of the fineſt towns in Germany. In it is one Popiſh church, a college, two Proteſtant Calviniſt churches, two convents, and a Jews ſynagogue. There are alſo ſeveral good manufactures.

2. Heidelberg is the ancient principal town of this electorate; although, through many grievous misfortunes, and more eſpecially by the barbarous ravages of the French, it is now but ſmall, though ſince finely rebuilt. It contains ſeveral churches, for Romaniſts, Calviniſts, and Lutherans; a college and church, formerly belonging to the Jeſuits; alſo ſix cloiſters. Many other of the good towns of this country were ſo miſerably ravaged by Count Tilly, the Imperial General, in the former part of the ſeventeenth century, and by the French towards the latter part of that century, that they have not as yet been able to recover their former happier condition: in moſt of which towns the three religions have churches. Here fine Muſcadel wines are produced; and therein are

ſome

ſome manufactures. In this palatinate alſo is the principality of Aremberg, and of Tour and Taxis; the ſeignory of Beilſtein, belonging to Naſſau-Orange Dietz; the county of Lower Iſenburg, and the burgravate of Reineck.

The Elector Palatine's annual revenue is eſtimated at three hundred thouſand pounds ſterling. The Palatinate is about one hundred Engliſh miles in length, and from fifty to ſeventy miles in breadth; and is one of the moſt fruitful and pleaſant provinces in Germany.

The Dominions of the Archbiſhopric and Electorate of Trier, or Treves, are moſtly mountainous and woody, yet in many parts there is good arable land; and it produces vaſt quantities of Moſelle wines. This archbiſhopric has been greatly abridged by the conqueſts of France.

1. Treves, on the Moſelle, its capital city, has a cathedral, three collegiate and five pariſh churches, three colleges, thirteen convents, and an univerſity: but it being ſo much at the mercy of France, whenever that reſtleſs people think it for their intereſt to invade Germany, no conſiderable commerce can be expected in it.

2. In the Lower Archbiſhopric ſtands the ſtrong town of Coblentz, near the confluence of the Moſelle into the Rhine. It contains three churches, a college, and ſeven convents. The fort named Ehrenbreitſten, oppoſite to Coblentz, is deemed the important key to the rivers Rhine and Moſelle, and conſequently to the trade in wines, &c. on thoſe two rivers. Here are many ſmall towns, burghs, and villages, held in common by the Elector of Treves and the Prince of Naſſau-Dietz; in which parts they raiſe much flax, and dig up much copper and ſome ſilver.

We have not met with any computation of the revenue of the Electorate: but we apprehend, for the above reaſon, that it is the leaſt conſiderable of the three eccleſiaſtical electors.

The circle of the Upper Rhine, has had almoſt all its territories and ſtates on the other ſide of the Rhine gradually raviſhed from the German empire by France, viz. the greateſt part of the Biſhoprics, and their reſpective metropolitan cities of Straſburg, Metz, Toul, Verdun; the Archbiſhopric of Bezançon; the Dutchy of Lorrain, at firſt reckoned in this circle, but afterward annexed to the circle of Burgundy; the princely abbies of Murbach and Munſter, the county of Bitch, and the land-vogtey of Hagenau, which comprized the ten ancient imperial cities of Alſace.

Nevertheleſs, this circle has ſtill remaining to it many noble and fine territories:

1. Of the biſhoprics of Worms, Spire, Straſburg, and Baſil, all on or near the Rhine, and the Provoſtſhip of Weiſſenburg, nothing material relating to our general ſubject can be ſaid.

2. That of the Biſhopric and Abbey of Fulda lies next to Heſſe.

Fulda, a fortified town, lies on the river Fulda, of which we can ſay nothing further conſiderable than that it has an abbey, a palace for the biſhop, two or three churches, a college, an univerſity, and a nunnery; and ſeveral ſmall adjacent burghs and villages. And much the ſame may be obſerved of the Principality of Heiterſheim—the Abbey of Prum—the Priory of Odenheim—the Dutchies of Simmeren and Lauteren—and the counties of Veldenes and Lautereck; only that there is here to be found excellent wines; and the like may be ſaid of the Dutchy of Deux-Pons, or Zweybrucken, its German name.

The two landgravates of Heſſe are in a great meaſure hilly and woody, intermixed with fruitful vallies, abounding with excellent cattle and corn, and in ſome parts with good wine; with mines of ſilver, copper, iron, lead, alum, vitriol, ſalt-ſprings, pit-coal, ſulphur, marble, and alabaſter. Here are manufactures of cloth of gold, of linen and woollen cloth, ſtockings, hats, paper, gloves, &c. more eſpecially at Caſſel, which has alſo a fine porcelain manufacture.

Heſſe-Caſſel, or Lower Heſſe, is Calviniſt, and is the largeſt and moſt powerful; its annual revenue being reckoned at one hundred and twenty thouſand pounds ſterling.

1. Caſſel, its capital, on the river Fulda, contains five churches; and beſide the before-named manufactures, has a manufactory of braſs and copper. The new town was built, and is principally inhabited by French refugees, who introduced ſeveral manufactures there, eſpecially of the woollen kinds.

2. Marpurg, in Upper Heſſe, is its capital, and is a noted Calviniſt Univerſity; has four Calviniſt churches.

3. In the Wettereau lies the county and town of Catzenelbogen; with good agriculture, ſome wine, and woollen manufactures.

4. Rhinfels, a ſtrong fortreſs on the Rhine.

The Landgrave of Heſſe Darmſtadt is of the Lutheran perſuaſion. He poſſeſſes a fine country, abounding in excellent wines, fruits, and corn: here are alſo ſome woollen manufactures.

1. Darmſtadt, its capital, on the Lahn, is fortified. It has but one church, and therefore cannot be large. Here is alſo the Prince's palace, and ſome charity foundations.

2. Gieſſen, a fortified town on the river Lahn, with an univerſity and two Lutheran churches.

3. Hirchfeld, contains a cathedral, a town church, a palace, an hoſpital well endowed, and an illuſtrious ſchool or gymnaſium.

4. Philipſthal is only to be here mentioned as being the reſidence of an appendage branch of the houſe of Heſſe-Caſſel.

The revenues of the Landgrave of Heſſe Darmſtadt, are ſaid to amount to one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling.

Trarbach, on the Moſelle, is a fief of the Elector of Triers; was once a good fort, till diſmantled by the French. It has one pariſh church, which is uſed in common by Papiſts and Lutherans.

The principalities and houſe of Naſſau lie in the country called the Wetterau; which though moſtly woody and mountainous, has nevertheleſs fine arable and meadow lands.

The county of Naſſau Dietz lies on the Lahn; and, for its great fertility, is called the Golden Country. It is a fief of the Elector of Triers.

1. Dietz, on the Lahn, has two Calviniſt churches, and one for Lutherans.

2. Naſſau is a ſmall town on the Lahn, having but one pariſh church, common to both Calviniſts and Lutherans.

3. The county of Naſſau Weilburg has a ſilver, a copper, and an iron mine work.

Weilburg is a handſome town on the Lahn.

The county of Naſſau-Saarbruk-Uſingen, on the Saar, contains,

1. Wiſbaden, a handſome, populous, and thriving town, chiefly ariſing from its celebrated warm baths, and its being the ſeat of the regency.

2. Saarbruck, on the Saar, is a ſmall town, with one Calviniſt and one Lutheran church; with a church and ſchool erected for the uſe of the Calviniſts at Saarbruck, who, for the quiet enjoyment of their religion, retired out of France, Lorrain, &c.

The ancient county of Waldeck belongs to its own Prince; it lies ſouth of Heſſe, and abounds in grain, cattle, and in mines of iron, lead, copper, and ſome gold, equal in goodneſs to that of Hungary.

1. Corbach is its principal town, having two Calviniſt churches.

2. Waldeck is a little town, with ſome fortifications.

With ſeveral other ſmall burghs and villages.

The fine county of Hanau-Munzenberg lies in the Wetterau, near Frankfort on the Maine, along which it moſtly lies. It is ſubject to the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel; and is remarkably fertile in excellent

excellent grain, wines, and fruits: it has a ſilver and a copper mine, and ſome ſalt-works. It contains five towns, and ninety-ſix villages.

Hanau, its fortified capital town, has an univerſity, a palace, one Calviniſt and one Lutheran church, in the old town. The new town was entirely raiſed, about the year 1597, by the Proteſtant Walloons, or Flemiſh refugees, to whom great encouragement was given for their ſettling in this country, having therein a French and a Dutch church; and where they have introduced ſeveral kinds of woollen manufactures, grograms, ſilk and worſted ſtockings, callicoes, and porcelain. Here is a wax bleachery, and a tobacco-roll manufacture. This town deals much in timber brought down the Maine, in rough and caſt iron, meal and corn. Trade and manufactures flouriſh here very much, becauſe every one has full liberty to trade at pleaſure: the jews, in this flouriſhing town, live in a particular quarter of it; and are allowed ſchools for the education of their children. This freedom from the reſtraints of excluſive and monopolizing corporations and communities, is the glory as well as the enriching of this and ſuch other places, whoſe ſovereigns have wiſdom and foreſight ſufficient to ſee their true intereſts, in point of commerce, wealth, and power.

The lordſhip of Hanau-Lichtenberg lies moſtly in Upper Alſace, and therefore unhappily brought under the yoke of France; what part of it ſtills remains to the empire, is ſubject to Heſſe-Darmſtadt, conſiſting only of a few villages.

The principality of Solms, the county of Konigſtein, and of Upper Yſenburg, all lie in the Wetterau, near the Rhine and the Maine; but contain nothing very particular to our purpoſe, reſpecting either commerce or manufactures, excepting very good wines. Yet ſuch of them as are Proteſtants having admitted ſome of the French refugees to ſettle with them, certain French manufactures have been conſequently introduced. It would be to ſmall purpoſe to deſcribe, by name, all the lordſhips and ſmall independencies of the country of the Wetterau, and ſome other parts of this circle, as of very little importance to our principal object.

Yet we muſt remark, that the imperial city of Worms, near the Rhine, after having been deſtroyed by the French in the year 1689, has been moſtly rebuilt with advantage. It is a free ſtate of the empire: its magiſtrates are Lutheran; but the Papiſts have the cathedral, with four collegiate and four pariſh churches, a college and gymnaſium, alſo ſix convents. Here are three Lutheran churches, and three for the Calviniſts. In its vicinity grows the delicious Rheniſh wine, which, for its excellence, has the appellation of, Our Lady's Milk.

The imperial city of Spire takes its name from a ſmall river falling into the Rhine a little lower. It was moſt barbarouſly deſtroyed by the French in the year 1689, and laid waſte till after the peace of Ryſwick, when it was begun to be rebuilt. The choir of its cathedral, ſays Dr. Buſching, "is "beautifully repaired. But the ſuperb marble monuments of eight emperors and three empreſſes "here, were broken in pieces by the French, who opened and pillaged the vaults, and threw about "the bones of the illuſtrious dead!" Spire is one of the original imperial cities. Beſide the cathedral, here are ſeveral popiſh churches, a college, and ſeveral convents and nunneries. The Lutheran out-number all its other inhabitants, have two churches and a gymnaſium, and its magiſtrates are alſo Lutheran: yet it pays homage to its Biſhop upon every new acceſſion; and, in return, he binds himſelf not to infringe its liberties.

The imperial city of Friedberg, in the Wetterau, ſtands in a very fertile country, though it is now much decayed, as is alſo the caſe of the moſt part of the other imperial German cities, yet it is ſtill a free Lutheran town; but is not at preſent eminent for commerce.

The free imperial town of Wetzlar, lies alſo in the Wetterau; its magiſtrates, and moſt of its burghers, are Lutherans. Yet the principal church is in common for both Papiſts and Lutherans.

The Papiſts alſo have a convent, a college, and a church. The Lutherans have two other churches, and the Calviniſts have one church. Hither, in the year 1693, was removed from Spire, for the reaſon to be ſeen under the then condition of that city, the imperial chamber, ever ſince held in the town-houſe of Wetzlar.

The circle of Franconia contains,

1. The free and imperial city of Franckfort, on both ſides of the Maine, is juſtly celebrated for its commerce. It contains about three thouſand houſes, and many fine palaces belonging to various princes and lords, beſide three ſquares.—It is the uſual place of the election and coronation of a King of the Romans. In the fair time, laſting three weeks, twice in the year, here are toy ſhops under the arches of the town-houſe; and over thoſe arches is the hall where the Emperor uſually dines on his coronation day.—Amongſt the archives, in the town-houſe, is kept the famous Golden Bull of the Emperor Charles IV. being a parchment book of forty-three quarto leaves, containing the fundamental inſtitutes of the empire: it is kept in a caſket of gold, and may be termed the Magna Charta of Germany, written in Latin capitals.—This city has an exchange for merchants.—The magiſtrates and other city officers are Lutherans, that being eſteemed there the eſtabliſhed religion; but, although the Calviniſts traders are numerous here, they are ſo uncharitable as not to allow them a church within their city; wherefore they are obliged to go a little way out of town, (ſays Dr. Buſching) but, according to Mr. Nugent, three miles off, to a village named Bockonheim, in the county of Hanau, for their public worſhip.—Moſt of the beſt churches, with the cathedral, are poſſeſſed by the Roman Catholicks, who likewiſe have ſeveral convents here. There are, however, ſeveral Luthran churches, and two Lutheran nunneries for ladies of quality, a Lutheran gymnaſium or univerſity, and a ſeminary for Lutheran divines: alſo a city library, ſeveral hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations.

The convenient ſituation of Frankfort, in ſo fine and rich a part of Germany, and its two celebrated annual fairs for all kinds of merchandize, and remarkably ſo for printed books in all languages, renders it, in point of traffic, one of the principal places in Germany. Mr. Keyſler, in his travels, in the years 1730, &c. thinks, that ten millions of rix-dollars would hardly purchaſe the merchandize expoſed to ſale at one of thoſe fairs. Its ſilk manufactures are very conſiderable; here are alſo manufactures of tobacco and porcelain. This city has a territory round it, containing one walled town, and ſeveral villages, ſeats, and farms, where great quantities of wines are made;—and alſo a foreſt.

Being a fortified city, it maintains its own garriſon; and the annual revenue of the city is computed at ſix hundred thouſand gilders, equal to ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling.

In the extenſive biſhopric of Bamberg are eighteen burghs and fifteen market towns; it is ſo fertile in grain, fruits, good wines, ſaffron, fine liquorice, lemon and orange trees, as to be ſtiled, by ſome, the little Italy of Germany.

Bamberg, its capital city, is well built and populous, is ſituated near the river Bednitz: but, as too often happens to cities ſubject to eccleſiaſtical ſovereigns, there is little to be ſaid of its commerce; there are, however, in this city, a cathedral, many fine houſes, churches, and convents; and alſo ſome charitable foundations.

Wurtzburg is another large and princely biſhopric, and its capital city, of the ſame name, on the Maine, is fortified, has a large cathedral, an univerſity, two collegiate and ſeveral pariſh churches and convents.

This biſhopric is very fertile in corn, fruits, and wines, of which laſt the very beſt in all Franconia grows near this city. Formerly, Proteſtantiſm prevailed much here; but, living under an eccleſiaſtical prince, it could not long do ſo; accordingly, the remaining Lutheran and Calviniſt churches are continually preferring to the diets of the empire, their grevious complaints of oppreſſion and injuſtice; but to very little effect.

The principality or margravate of Brandenburg-Bareith, (or as Dr. Buſching writs it, Bayreuth) produces all kinds of neceſſaries, wine only excepted. In it are mines of ſilver, copper, lead, iron, antimony, cryſtal, vitriol, ſulphur, terra ſigillata, marble, &c. It contains ſixteen walled towns, and twenty-ſix market towns.

1. Bareith, its capital, contains three Proteſtant churches, viz. two Lutheran and one Calviniſt, and a Popiſh chapel.

2. New Erlang, (called alſo, from the Margrave's name who founded it, Chriſtian Erlang) is quite a modern town, ſprung up, or rather founded, ſo lately as the year 1686, lying cloſe to old Erlang: its exiſtence and increaſe has been entirely owing to the acceſſion of the French Proteſtant Refugees upon the repeal of the edict of Nantes. It being built, as it were, all at once, its ſtreets are therefore very ſtraight, broad, and regular, ſo as to be now eſteemed one of the fineſt towns in Germany. Here are four churches, and a newly built palace for the ſovereign: alſo an univerſity removed hither from Bareith, in the year 1743.

The French refugees have ſet up ſome conſiderable manufactures here, chiefly of the woollen ſort; alſo ſtockings and hats, &c. It is ſurrounded with a wall, &c.

3. Old Erlang, a very ancient place, has but one Lutheran church. Here is a college of commerce.

Here are ſome other towns in which the French refugees have eſtabliſhed manufactures, and have ſeparate churches for themſelves.

The revenue of this principality is reckoned, by Mr. Nugent, in his grand tour, to amount to five hundred thouſand crowns; but what ſort of crowns he does not tell us. He ſays, that the family of Bareith became extinct in the year 1726; and that his couſin, the marquis of Culembach, ſucceded to it.

4. Culembach, a ſtrong town, on the river Maine, is deſcribed by Mr. Nugent, as not far from its ſource; and that, at this city, are kept the ancient records of the houſe of Brandenburg. It has ſuffered much by fire, particularly in the year 1708, when it was almoſt deſtroyed.

5. Hoff has four churches, a gymnaſium, a good woollen manufacture, and fine marble; of both which a great deal is exported.

6. Wunſiedel has a manufactory in dyed woollen and linen ſtuffs, and deals in wrought plate.

In the biſhopric of Aichſtet are ten towns, beſide one market town, and many villages. Aichſtet, its capital, has a cathedral, a college, ſeveral pariſh churches, and convents; yet is no way eminent for commerce.

The principality of Onolſbach or Anſbach is Lutheran, and extends quite to the gates of Nurenberg. It abounds in grain, fruits, tobacco, wines, and iron mines. It contains ſixteen burghs, and ſeventeen market towns; has manufactures of woollen cloth, tapeſtry, ſtuffs, ſtockings, gold and ſilver lace, wire, needles, porcelain, looking glaſſes, leather, &c.

1. Anſbach, its capital, has ſeveral churches, a gymnaſium or illuſtrious ſchool, and ſome charitable foundations, a prince's palace, a porcelain manufacture, &c.

2. At Swabach are two or three churches, and ſome charitable foundations; with manufactures of gold and ſilver lace, iron wire, Spaniſh ſteel, pencils, and braſs buttons: here are model cutters and needle makers of great fame, manufacturers of fine metal ſhoe buckles, ſtocking weavers, of whom there are two hundred maſter workmen in this town, employing three hundred looms or frames; tobacco ſpinners, fine tapeſtry weavers, and manufactures of woollen cloth and ſtuffs,

which have been much improved ſince the firſt ſettlement here of the French refugees, in the year 1686.

3. Hoffmarkfurth is a large, commercial, and very populous place, on the Rednitz; where there are great numbers of artiſans and mechanics; being ſuch as cannot be received into the guilds and fraternities of Nurenberg, as the laws of the German empire are framed, where the dues run ſo high; and where alſo the Jews are ſo very numerous as to make a third part of the inhabitants, having here a great ſchool and a printing preſs. The inhabitants of this town are partly ſubjects of Anſbach, partly of Nurenberg, aud partly alſo of the chapter of Bamberg.

4. Roth, though but a ſmall town, has manufactures of ſtockings, Spaniſh lace and ſtuffs.

5. Stefft, a market town, ſeated on the river Maine, has greatly proſpered ever ſince the year 1726, when immunities were promulgated for the benefit of all ſuch manufacturers and merchants as inclined to ſettle in it.

In the prefecturate of Smalkalden, lies the town of Smalkald, ſituated near the Thuringian wood: it is a conſiderably large, thriving, and populous town, belonging to the Landgrave of Heſſe-Caſſel, having two churches: its ſalt pits, and the neighbouring mines of iron and ſteel, with their forges, occaſion this town to reap conſiderable advantages; and a great trade is here carried on in iron and ſteel wares.

The free imperial city of Nurenberg is a very large well built city, ſtanding on the Regnitz, which runs through the middle of it; over which, excluſive of divers wooden bridges, are laid ſix bridges of ſtone: it has double walls, fortified with ſeveral ſmall and large towers, and a broad and deep ditch, about a German mile, or four Engliſh miles, in circuit. It contains above five hundred ſtreets, and eight thouſand moſtly large ſtone houſes; but the number of its inhabitants is not proportioned to the largeneſs of the town; for though, in many houſes, there may reſide two or three families, according to Dr. Buſching, yet in moſt there is but one; and ſeveral houſes remain uninhabited. On the other hand, Mr. Keyſler, in his Travels, in the years 1730, &c. makes the dwelling houſes in Nurenberg to amount to twenty-one thouſand in number, which, he adds, are inhabited by ſeventy-five thouſand families. Now, if this laſt account be near the truth, then, on the moderate computation of four perſons to each family, the number of its inhabitants would be three hundred thouſand. Theſe two authors, being both Germans, and gentlemen of education and abilities, whoſe employments and ſituations, ſo near to Nurenberg, one would imagine, muſt have enabled them to be well acquainted with the magnitude of ſo famous a place; it is truly ſurpriſing, that there ſhould be ſuch a difference between their accounts as almoſt three to one, in reſpect to the houſes in it; and almoſt ten to one, in reſpect to the number of inhabitants, allowing four perſons, as above, to be in each family. A third author, (Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, ſecond edition, in the year 1756) thinks Nurenberg may contain five hundred and fifty ſtreets and alleys, wherein are ſixty thouſand inhabitants. So great a diſparity is there, for the moſt part, in the different accounts of voyagers, relating to the magnitude of moſt of the greater cities of Europe, probably occaſioned by their taking only a tranſient view of ſuch places, as they paſs through them, or the vulgar report of ſome of their inhabitants. Let us then ſuppoſe, with Mr. Nugent, that there may be, in each of thoſe five hundred and fifty ſtreets and alleys, forty houſes, on a medium, or twenty-two thouſand houſes in all; and, as many of them are large and lofty, they may, on a like medium, contain ſix perſons in each houſe, then there may be in this city about one hundred and thirty-two thouſand inhabitants, nearly equal to the city of London within its bars; which ſuppoſition ſeems to us to be nearer the truth than any of the three above-named computations. Dr. Buſching relates, that the magiſtrates, and almoſt all its inhabitants, are Lutherans. That it has ſix pariſh churches, with ſtated preachers; beſide eleven other churches and chapels, in which ſometimes deacons, and ſometimes candidates for the prieſthood preach.—That the few Calviniſts reſiding here have a preacher of their own, perform divine ſervice out of this city, in an houſe ſeated in a garden; and that the Roman Catholic ſervice is tolerated in the Teutonic-houſe.—That its Lutheran clergy conſiſt of ſix chief preachers, thirty-five deacons, and two vicars. Mr. Nugent thinks it excels all the cities in Germany, in reſpect to the fairneſs of its ſtreets, the uniformity of its buildings, and its induſtry. Dr. Buſching ſays, the council-houſe is one of the moſt magnificent in all Germany.—That it has many hoſpitals and other charitable foundations, beſide a gymnaſium, and many private ſchools.—That, in the church of the Holy Ghoſt are repoſited the principal part of the jewels of the empire, ſuch as the crown, ſceptre, ſword, and imperial apple, never ſhown but to perſons of great diſtinction.—That its large arſenal is well ſupplied with all the implements of war; the military force of the city, in time of peace, conſiſting of ſeven companies of foot, of each one hundred men, and, in time of war, of each one hundred and eighty-five men, with two companies of cuiraſſiers, and two of invalids: here alſo is a citadel or imperial fortreſs.—That, out of the burgherſhip, twenty-five ſtandards are always kept in arms, each conſiſting of between three and four hundred men, excluſive of two hundred gunners, and two companies of the town's cavalry.—That its ingenious artiſts, and handicraft people in ivory, wood, metal, clock-work, &c. have long been moſt famous every where, and that numberleſs ingenious things, at very low prices, are exported all over the world; and that, although thoſe curioſities, toys, &c. do not at preſent bring in ſo much money as they formerly did, yet thoſe articles are ſtill very conſiderable, as this city continues to be one of the greateſt trading towns in Germany.—That geography is much indebted to the celebrated ſhops for land charts or maps, eſtabliſhed here, by Homman, which ſhop is alſo a real ornament and a great honour to the city; which has ten market places, and thirteen public baths.—That the river Pegnitz is let into the city, by twelve large arches under its walls, and let out again by the like number of arches, after running through the middle of the city; and on its ſtream there are ſixty mills for corn and paper, and the making of ſword blades, knives, &c. with much diſpatch and art.

The territory belonging to Nurenberg contains in it two conſiderable imperial foreſts; alſo ſeveral good towns of inferior dimenſion, citadels, and villages.

From the ancient burg-graves of Nurenberg is deſcended the preſent royal and electoral houſe of Brandenburg, as alſo the Princes of Bareith and Anſpach.

The circle of Swabia is particularly remarkable for containing very many free imperial cities, viz. Augſburg and Ulm, places of the greateſt eminence, Eſzlingen, Reutlingen, Nordtlingen, Hall, Neberlingen, Rothweil, Heilbron, Gemund, Memmingen, Lindau, Dinkenſbuhl, Biberach, Ravenſburg, Kempten, Kaufbeuren, Weil, Wangen, Yſni, Leutkirch, Wimpfen, Giengen, Ppfullendorf, Buchborn, Aalen, Bopfingen, Buchau, Offenburg, Gengenbach, Zell, (the laſt three ſtiling themſelves the United Towns, as Eſzlingen, Nordtlingen, Hall, Heilbron, Memmingen, and Lindau, are called the ſix Correſponding Towns, of which Ulm is perpetual director:) many of which towns, with the pompous name of free and imperial cities, like ſeveral of the royal burghs in Scotland, are now ſo mean and inconſiderable, whatever they might anciently have been, as ſcarcely to merit the being mentioned.

The Duke of Wirtenburg is the moſt conſiderable potentate in this circle.

In this dutchy were numbered, in the year 1754, four hundred and ſeventy-ſeven thouſand one hundred and fifteen inhabitants, which are, ſince then, ſuppoſed to have gradually increaſed. This dutchy contains ſixty-eight cities and towns, one thouſand two hundred burghs, market towns, and hamlets.

hamlets. The eſtabliſhed religion is Lutheran; but the Duke Charles Alexander has embraced the Catholic religion; although, in the years 1729, 1732, and 1733, that Prince gave formal aſſurances to the States, that no change nor innovation ſhould be made in the Lutheran eſtabliſhment. And Duke Charles Eugene, in the year 1750, did the ſame.

In this dutchy are manufactures of porcelain, glaſs, fine gold and marbled paper, damaſked linen, &c.

At Tubingen, and other towns, are good manufactures of linen and woollen, cotton printing, hats, ſtockings, &c.

Stutgard, capital of the dutchy of Wirtenburg, though not large, yet contains five Lutheran churches: here are manufactures of ſilks, ſtuffs, ſtockings, porcelain, glaſs, ribbons; and excellent wines, and ſome ſalt ſprings.

Tubingen, on the Neckar, has an univerſity, and a woollen manufacture.

Montbeillard has three Proteſtant churches, and a gymnaſium.

The fine marquiſate of Baden-Baden lies along the eaſt ſide of the Rhine, abounding in corn, wine, flax, hemp, wood, &c. yet has no town, nor any manufactures of eminence.

The marquiſate of Baden-Dourlach, lying on the eaſt ſide of the Rhine, has an exuberance of good wine, corn, flax, hemp, horſes, ſeveral iron works, yet ſcarce any peculiar manufactures, nor towns of any eminence.

The fine, large and ſtrong, free, imperial city of Augſburg is ſituated on the river Lech, which runs into the Danube. It has a grand cathedral, in which is fourteen chapels, ſix Popiſh pariſh churches, two abbeys, eight convents; ſix Lutheran pariſh churches, and a Lutheran gymnaſium, or great ſchool; ſeveral hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations. It has the fineſt town houſe in all Germany. On its fine aqueducts, for the conveyance of water into it, are ſeveral mills for corn, ſawing, and for flatting and ſmelting of metals. Its burghers are computed to amount to ſix thouſand. What Dr. Buſching here means by the word burghers, he has not clearly explained, though probably is thereby meant what in England is called Freemen of cities and towns. Augſburg has very long been celebrated for its curious artiſts in gold, ſilver, clock-work, tin, &c. and its commerce is ſtill conſiderable; although formerly it was much more ſo, whilſt the merchandize of the Eaſt Indies continued to be brought to it from Venice, before the Portugueſe diſcovered the way by ſea to the Eaſt Indies.

Here is a great wine and ſalt office, with vaſt magazines of Rheniſh, Moſelle, and Tyrol wines. They deal here conſiderably in banking, and are famous for their goldſmiths ware, with which they ſupply a great part of Germany and Poland; and are even ſaid to outdo Nurenberg in clock-work, fine ſteel chains, and iron works; and it is ſtill one of the largeſt and fineſt cities in all Germany. It magiſtracy is half Lutheran and half Catholic. It has a conſiderable circumjacent diſtrict, and ſome villages. Its Biſhop is a Prince of the empire, as indeed all other Biſhops are within the German empire.

The free, imperial, and fortified city of Ulm is deemed the capital of the circle of Swabia, ſituated on the Danube. Its magiſtracy, and moſt of its inhabitants, are Lutheran. Here are ſeveral Lutheran churches, and ſundry good ſecular edifices, beſide the town houſe and arſenal. It maintains ſix companies of ſoldiers for its guard. Ulm trades conſiderably in linen, cotton, clock-work, and in great quantities of wines brought thither from the Rhine, the Neckar, the lake of Conſtance, and the Valteline, and thence carried farther up the Danube. Ulm's territory is about twenty-four Engliſh miles in length, and ſixteen in breadth.

Here are abundance of leſſer imperial cities in this circle, as Memingen, partly Lutheran and partly Catholic, ſaid to carry on a good trade with Switzerland and Italy, in ſalt, linen, hops, corn, paper, &c. Yet moſt of the reſt already named, are ſcarcely otherwiſe conſiderable but merely in name, without being eminent either for commerce or manufactures.

In the circle of Bavaria is,

1. The very extenſive archbiſhopric of Saltzburg, which terminates eaſtward on Auſtria, and ſouthward on Tyrol, conſiſts entirely of mountains, deep valleys, and narrow paſſes; whereby they are conſtrained to have all their corn from the Electorate of Bavaria: yet they have plenty of hay of a peculiar excellence, and their horſes are much eſteemed for their beauty and hardineſs. Their ſalt, of various colours, is hewn out of ſubterraneous places, and then diſſolved in freſh water pits, of the brine whereof the fineſt ſalt is made, and much of it exported to Bavaria in exchange for corn, purſuant to an ancient compact between the electorate and this archbiſhopric. Here alſo are very conſiderable mines, ſays Dr. Buſching, of gold, ſilver, copper, lead, iron, and lapis calaminaris, a great deal of braſs and ſteel being here made, and an almoſt incredible quantity of ſwords, ſabres, bayonets, muſkets, cannon, and mortars. And, although this country be altogether inland, there are in it ſuch important materials for commerce as are more than ſufficient to enable it to grow opulent and populous. It contains ſix cities and twenty-five market towns. Such, nevertheleſs, are the miſchiefs of eccleſiaſtico-temporal dominion over the laity, that theſe ſovereign archbiſhops have oppreſſed, and at length gradually extirpated, their formerly numerous nobility, and have annexed their eſtates to the clergy. Theſe eccleſiaſtical tyrants have, moreover, by all the various means of oppreſſion and cruelty, driven out, in our own days, great numbers of their Lutheran ſubjects, no fewer than thirty thouſand of ſuch, in the year 1732, being diſperſed into the Proteſtant countries of Germany and Pruſſia, and ſome of them even as far as the Britiſh continent colonies of America. In all which parts they have been received with that benevolence and encouragement which their great reſolution and Chriſtian magnanimity juſtly merited! And, ever ſince that period, their emigrations have ſtill continued, to the great depopulation of the country. Thus, wherever eccleſiaſtical deſpotiſm prevails, the ſole conſideration is the propagating the power of the clergy, though to the ruin of the country.

This Archbiſhop is ſo conſiderable a Prince, that his aſſeſſment, in the matricula of the empire, is equal to that of an Elector, being ſixty horſe and two hundred and ſeventy-ſeven foot, or one thouſand eight hundred and twenty-eight florins; and to the chamber of Wetzlar he pays ſix hundred and eight rix-dollars annually: Mr. Keyſler thinks his revenues amount to no leſs than eight hundred thouſand rix-dollars, or about one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds ſterling.

1. Saltzburg, or, as often written, Salzburg, its well fortified capital city, contains thirty churches, beſide its great cathedral, a grand palace for the ſovereign, an univerſity, ſeveral convents, and hoſpitals, and ſome good palaces: it is well ſituated for trade, upon the river Salza, which runs into the Inn, which falls into the Danube at Paſſau. Yet none of our voyagers write any thing particular of its manufactures or commerce.

2. Gaſtein, a market town, is noted for its warm bath, and for its lead, ſilver, and gold mines.

In the proper electorate and dutchy of Bavaria are reckoned thirty-five walled towns, ninety-five market towns, and eleven thouſand ſeven hundred villages; and, in what is called the Upper Palatinate, alſo ſubject to the Elector, are thirteen walled towns, and twenty-eight market towns; and, in all the electorate, one thouſand five hundred pariſhes, beſide very many convents with chapels.

Manufactures have of late been cultivated here, viz. coarſe woollen cloth, ſtuffs, and ſtockings; alſo ſilks, velvets, tapeſtry, good clocks, watches, &c. Yet not ſo conſiderable, but that ſtill its principal exports conſiſt only of grain, cattle, timber, ſalt, and iron.

Its fortified capital city is Munich, on the river Izer, containing forty thouſand inhabitants, ſeveral fine churches, convents, palaces, and hoſpitals, beſide the electoral palace. At its annual fairs are ſold vaſt quantities of ſalt, wines, &c. And here are manufactures of wool, ſilk, tapeſtry, and velvet.

2. Ingolſtadt, a ſtrong and populous city on the Danube, has five churches, a college and gymnaſium, three convents, and an univerſity; and, as it has the privilege of a ſtaple, its happy ſituation on ſo noble a river gives it great commercial advantages.

3. Friedberg, a town of two churches; is famous for its clocks and watches.

4. Waſſerburg, a town of four churches and ſeveral convents; has a conſiderable trade in ſalt, as have alſo all thoſe of Fraunſtein and Reichenhall; the latter having a very extraordinary machine for carrying its ſalt-ſprings over ſome high mountains, to a conſiderable diſtance.

In the Lower Bavaria is,

1. Landſhut, an open well-built town on the Iſer, having two electoral palaces in it, a college and church, the ſteeple of which is deemed the higheſt in Germany, one pariſh church, and ſix convents.

2. Straubing is a well-built town on the Danube, with two churches, four convents, and a college.

In the Upper Palatinate is Amberg, its fortified capital, and the largeſt town in the ſaid Palatinate, on the river Vils; but its commerce is no where ſaid to be remarkable.

The city of Freyſing, the capital of the ſovereign biſhopric of that name, has a cathedral, four collegiate and two pariſh churches, with ſeveral convents and charitable foundations.

In the dutchy of Newburg, ſubject to the Elector Palatine, is Newburg, its capital, a neat, but ſmall fortified city on the Danube. Of its commerce or manufactures we have very little account; only Mr. Nugent relates, that wines are ſold weekly in its markets.

The noble, free, and Imperial city and biſhopric of Ratiſbon, otherwiſe called Regenſburg, ſtands at the confluence of the Danube and Regen. The city is large and populous: its magiſtrates and burghers are Lutheran, as are moſt of its churches. Yet here is a Popiſh Scotiſh cloiſter, a collegiate church, and ſeveral convents and hoſpitals. The diets of the empire have been held here for about one hundred years paſt, to the conſiderable emolument of this city. Here is a ſtrong, palatable wine, and an important ſalt ſtaple and trade: and from this city large quantities of corn, wood, and proviſions of all kinds, are continually ſent down the Danube to Vienna.

In the biſhopric of Paſſau is the city of Paſſau, on the Danube, at the confluence of the river Inn, on the ſouth-ſide. It contains a cathedral, and ſeveral churches and convents. Its very happy ſituation for trade, would naturally give ground for conjecturing it had ſome ſhare of it, yet there does not ſeem to be any thing conſiderable of it here; for which we can no otherwiſe account, than that it is abſolutely ſubject to an eccleſiaſtical ſovereign. Its biſhop's territory extends about twenty miles on the north ſide of the Danube.

The kingdom and electorate of Bohemia may truly be ſaid to be a decayed country, ſince it came under deſpotic government. By reaſon of its former diſtractions, it is far from being what it was one hundred and fifty years ago, when it was computed to contain above three millions of people.

Prague, its celebrated capital, according to Mr. Keyſler's travels, contains one hundred thouſand inhabitants: but Dr. Buſching's account reduces it to ſeventy thouſand Chriſtians, and thir-

teen

teen thouſand Jews, the latter dealing much in jewels; who adds, that although its commerce is not conſiderable, yet it contains ninety-two churches and chapels, and about forty cloiſters.

Here are many other walled towns and burghs; yet it does not appear that any of them are eminent either for commerce or for manufactures.

In Bohemia, however, is very good tin, good ſilver mines, precious ſtones of various kinds,—plenty of corn, cattle, alum, and glaſs manufactures, and ſome good wines.

Moravia, generally eſteemed a part of Bohemia, has ſome manufactures of woollen, iron, glaſs, paper, gunpowder, &c. and ſeveral good walled towns and burghs, though none eminent in a commercial ſenſe, but

1. Olmutz, its ſtrong and extenſive capital, containing a cathedral, twenty-ſix churches, ſeven chapels, nine convents, ſeveral hoſpitals, and an univerſity.

2. Brinn, a large walled town, ſaid to have more trade than even Olmutz itſelf.

3. Iglau, a ſtrong and populous town, has ſome good woollen manufactures.

The great and extenſive province of Sileſia has been uſually deemed to belong to the kingdom of Bohemia, but is at preſent ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, and not now comprehended in any particular circle of the German empire: it borders weſtward on Bohemia, and eaſtward on Poland, to which laſt kingdom it anciently belonged.

It abounds in all neceſſaries, and in many valuable productions: as flax, hops, madder, tobacco, tar, pitch, turpentine, pit-coal, mines of ſilver, copper, lead, tin, and iron, good wool; and in good years its wine, when kept for ſome years, proves good. Of late alſo raw ſilk is cultivated.

The great river Oder traverſes this country from end to end, for about two hundred Engliſh miles in length, and the country may be about ſeventy miles in breadth. The Oder firſt becomes navigable at Ratibor.

Dr. Buſching thinks that the people of Sileſia may exceed a million and an half; ſo that it exceeds, in that reſpect, ſome kingdoms of Europe. Yet when he computes, or rather ſuppoſes, that, out of thirty-eight perſons, there die four annually, he (or perhaps only, through miſtake, his Engliſh tranſlator) ſeems to be out of all rational probability; for, in another part of his work, he only ſuppoſes one to die annually out of thirty-eight; upon which computation alſo we have elſewhere animadverted. Beſide the clergy, the people of this province conſiſt of princes, dukes, counts, barons, gentry, citizens, and peaſantry; and the bulk of its people are of both religions, that is, Catholics and Lutherans; beſide there being here alſo many Calviniſt congregations. At Breſlau there is alſo a Greek church, and a Jews ſynagogue; as there are alſo in ſome other parts. But whilſt this country was in the poſſeſſion of the Houſe of Auſtria, the Proteſtants were grievouſly haraſſed, though contrary to ſolemn and repeated ſtipulations.

Its principal and very univerſal manufactures conſiſt of thread, and of linen of various kinds and fineneſs, twine, linen-printing, canvas, buckrams, plain, ſtriped, and flowered veils, very fine Turkiſh thread, lace, paper, woollen cloth and ſtuffs, ſtockings, hats, linſey-woolſeys, plain and figured fuſtians, calimancoes, pluſh, cotton, and other ſtuffs; glaſs-houſes, leather-dreſſing, powder-mills, iron-mills, and manufactures of iron of many various ſorts.

Sileſia's principal exports are, madder, mill-ſtones, linen, thread and yarn, woollen cloths, paper, wax, honey, and leather.

Its imports are, Poliſh wheat, ſalt, wines, ſpices, drugs, fabrics, &c.

Dr. Buſching thinks that ſince Sileſia has been ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, commerce has been much improved by that monarch's excellent regulations.—And he ſubjoins, that it is generally ſuppoſed, that all Pruſſian Sileſia, in conjunction with the county of Glatz, brings in above four millions of rix-dollars per annum; a revenue ſurpaſſing that of ſeveral European kingdoms.

1. Breſlau, its capital city, on the Oder, which runs cloſe by the walls, is, with all its ſuburbs, two German miles (or eight Engliſh miles) in circumference. It has ſeveral large and regular ſquares, and its principal ſtreets are broad; beſide many ſtately public edifices, it contains a number of very elegant houſes. It has about fifteen Popiſh pariſh churches, three abbeys, and thirteen or fourteen convents; about nine Lutheran churches, one Calviniſt church, one Greek church, and a Jews ſynagogue. The Lutherans have two flouriſhing gymnaſiums, under the direction of eleven profeſſors, and alſo a grammar-ſchool. Here is alſo an archiepiſcopal cathedral and palace, with an univerſity, a fine merchants exchange, two armories, a college of phyſicians, and many ſtate-offices. Its magiſtracy is Lutheran. It is at preſent the centre of all the trade of Sileſia, has two fairs yearly, at which vaſt quantities of merchandize are ſold to the Poles and Hungarians.

Sileſia contains one hundred and fifty cities and walled towns, beſide market-towns, and about four thouſand villages: it has a conſiderable advantage in trade, by having a communication, by water, with Hamburg; and its manufactures of linen and thread are exported in great quantities to England and Holland.

2. Brieg, on the Oder, is one of the largeſt and ſtrongeſt cities of Sileſia.

In it is an abbey, a college, and a convent; two Lutheran churches and their gymnaſium; and here is manufactured good woollen cloth.

3. The ſame may be ſaid of Strehlen, which has diverſe good woollen manufactures, two Lutheran churches, and a convent.

4. Schweidnitz, the capital of its own principality, is a ſtrong fortreſs, however unaccountably ſurprized by the Auſtrians, in the year 1761, though ſince retaken. It has one pariſh church, college, and ſeminary; alſo another Popiſh church, and four convents; and one Lutheran church without the gates.

5, 6. Landſhut and Reichenbach are towns having conſiderable manufactures of linen, canvas, and fuſtian.

7. Javer, the capital of its principality, has two Romiſh churches, and one Calviniſt church.

Hirchberg is one of the fineſt, moſt populous, and opulent towns here, where every year many thouſand pieces of linen veils, and other linen goods are whitened; it being, next to Breſlau, the principal place of commerce in all Sileſia.

8. Schmeidberg is an open free mine town, of conſiderable trade, more eſpecially in the iron-manufactures, and alſo in linen and linen-damaſk, and in half and whole ſilk-damaſks.

9. Lignitz, the capital of the province of that name, is one of the beſt towns in Sileſia, has a collegiate church; which, in 1698, was taken from the Lutherans, and given to the Jeſuits, who had a college here. Here are ſome Romiſh churches and convents, yet the Lutherans have ſtill two churches. Here is a good trade in cloth and madder.

10. Goldberg has one parochial Lutheran church, and two Romiſh convents. It had formerly a gold mine.

11. Luben has many cloth-workers, and its pariſh church and ſchool are Lutheran: and the ſame may be ſaid of Parchwitz.

12. Wolaw, the chief town of the principality of the ſame name, having one Popiſh church and convent, one Lutheran pariſh church and ſchool.

13. In Steinau is a Lutheran pariſh church, and a Popiſh chapel; therein are good cloth manufactures.

14. In

14. In the principality of Glogau is Great Glogau, its capital, (there being another of that name in Upper Sileſia) has a Popiſh abbey, another church, a college, two convents, a Lutheran church and ſchool, and a Calviniſt church, for the uſe of the court, conſecrated in the year 1751.

15. Grunberg and Schwibus have good woollen cloth manufactures, with each a Romiſh and Lutheran church.

16. Neyſze, a very ſtrong town, the chief of a principality of the ſame name, and on a river of that name, has a Popiſh collegiate church, and one other church, an abbey, a college, and five convents.

17. Ziegenhals is remarkable only for its manufactures of beautiful glaſſes.

18. The principality of Oels, has Oels, its chief town, containing two Lutheran churches, and one Popiſh church.

The principality of Sagan has,

19. Sagan, its chief town, contains a palace, an abbey, a convent, and a college; alſo a Lutheran church and ſchool, for which privilege, ſays Dr. Buſching, the Lutherans advanced to the Emperor a loan of fifty thouſand florins, beſide a donation of ten thouſand more. Of this kind of indulgences to the Lutherans in Sileſia, by the Auſtrian family, for pecuniary conſiderations, there are ſeveral other inſtances given by Dr. Buſching. Here are ſeveral iron-mills, and one copper-mill.

The principality of Munſterberg produces all ſorts of grain, flax, hemp, hops, and good cattle.

20. Munſterberg, its chief town, has two Romiſh churches, a Lutheran oratory, and one of Bohemian Calviniſts. The culture of hops is its chief employment.

In the principalities of Trachenberg and Caolath, and the lordſhip of Wartenberg, there is nothing properly relative to our principal ſubject; only in the laſt-mentioned lordſhip we find there were formerly thirteen Lutheran churches, of all which they were deprived in the year 1654.

The principality of Oppeln, though the largeſt, is ſeemingly the pooreſt principality; the greateſt part of its people are Poles, and the reſt are Germans, or their deſcendants.

Oppeln, on the Oder, though its chief town, yet little elſe can be ſaid of it, but that it is a decayed place, occaſioned by various calamities, more eſpecially by fires, which is alſo the caſe of many other towns in Sileſia, their houſes being moſtly timber. Yet here is a collegiate abbey, a pariſh church, a college, and two convents.

The ſmall principality of Ratibor produces all ſorts of grain and fruits.

Ratibor, its capital, lies on the Oder, has two churches and four convents; yet nothing reſpecting manufactures or commerce can be ſaid of this place.

The principalities of Troppau and Jagerndorf are fertile countries, lying contiguous to, and once belonging to Bohemia or Moravia: they are partly ſubject to the King of Pruſſia, and partly to Auſtria.

1. Troppau, a town on the river Oppa, is eſteemed the capital of Upper Sileſia; it has three parochial churches, a college, and four or five convents. It was moſtly deſtroyed by fire in the year 1758, according to Dr. Buſching.

2. Jagerndorf, a town likewiſe on the Oppa, has two churches and one convent.

The principality of Teſchen borders on Moravia, Poland, and Hungary.

Teſchen, its fortified capital, ſtands on the river Elſa, in a very fertile ſoil, has two Popiſh churches and a college. In its ſuburbs is a Lutheran church, wherein divine ſervice is performed both in the German and Poliſh languages; and alſo a Lutheran ſchool: both which coſt the Lutherans a donation of ten thouſand florins to the Emperor.

In this principality ſtands a ſtrong fort for the defence of the famous paſs of Jablounka, at the very entrance into the kingdom of Hungary.

The ſovereign county of Glatz lies between Sileſia, Bohemia, and Moravia, ſurrounded with rugged mountains, though in itſelf a fine country, having plenty of corn, pit-coal, quarries of ſtone and marble, jaſper, topazes, and cornelian, with mines of ſilver and copper. Its manufactures are conſiderable in thread and linen.

1. Glatz, its capital town, is very ſtrong, ſituated on the river Neyſz; its pariſh church was poſſeſſed by the Jeſuits, who formerly had a college and ſeminary; there is another church and convent in its ſuburbs.

2. Reiners, a ſmall open town, famous for good cloth and pluſh, and paper-making. The laſt ſays Dr. Buſching, by no means inferior to that of Holland.

3. Wunſchelburg, a fortified town, having divers woollen and linen manufactures.

4. Nowrode has manufactures of cloth and ſtuffs.

THE CIRCLE OF AUSTRIA.

Abounds in corn, cattle, horſes, ſaffron, and, towards the frontiers of Hungary, an excellent ſort of wine; it has alſo a rich ſilver mine, firſt begun to be worked ſo lately as the year 1754.

Vienna is the magnificent and ſtrongly fortified metropolis of both Upper and Lower Auſtria. It has a noble univerſity. Here the rich and fine manufactures have, of late years, been much improved and increaſed; particularly thoſe of ſilk, gold and ſilver lace, woollen and linen cloths, ſtuffs, and ſtockings; mirrors, and other plate glaſs; manufactures of braſs and porcelain, &c. And the importation of foreign manufactures is almoſt totally prohibited. Vienna, according to Dr. Buſching, conſtantly increaſes in its commerce; and, in the year 1704, a bank for exchanges and loans was erected, which, in 1706, was wiſely put under the management of her own magiſtrates: and the court of commerce here was, in the year 1753, declared to be a peculiar aulic tribunal. It is not our province nor intention to give a particular deſcription of ſo vaſt a city, wherein, according to Buſching, its numerous churches and extenſive cloiſters, with their gardens and walks, occupy almoſt a ſixth part of the whole city. It has fifteen ſquares, very many fine palaces, and various academies for all the fine arts. Its ſuburbs are much larger than the town itſelf; they have a citadel, and are, in ſome meaſure, fortified, and contain many palaces, churches, cloiſters, gardens, &c. Here are two imperial palaces, and the many high colleges, boards and judicatories, do not a little enhance its credit and ſplendor. Here are ſeveral large and particular libraries, and the vaſtneſs of the imperial library exceeds both the Vatican and royal French libraries. Theatres, cabinets of rarities, arſenals, and in ſhort, every other requiſite to conſtitute a great city, are here to be found.

Vienna's principal exports are wine, ſaffron, gunpowder, and alum: it lies on a branch of the Danube; the ſuburbs are much larger than the ancient city, and both together may contain about one hundred and eighty thouſand to two hundred thouſand inhabitants, according to Dr. Buſching; amongſt whom are all kinds of artiſts and manufacturers; ſo that the principal commerce of Auſtria does, in a manner, ſolely center at Vienna. In peaceable times here may be ſeen Turks, Tartars, Greeks, Hungarians, Spaniards, Italians, French, Polanders, &c. all in their ſeveral habits. Yet the trade of Vienna, ſays the ingenious Mr. Keyſler, in his Travels, in the year 1731, is little anſwerable to its largeneſs, and its convenient ſituation; partly owing to heavy duties and impoſts.

2. Lints, (or Linz) in Upper Auſtria, on the Danube, is its capital town, and is well-built and populous; it has two churches and ſix convents; has ſome conſiderable trade, and ſome woollen and ſilk manufactures, and ſeveral conſiderable fairs.

In theſe parts are many ſmall fortified towns, and very many burghs or market towns, of which we can ſay very little in reſpect to our principal ſubject.

The dutchy of Stiria lies to the ſouth of Auſtria, and though very mountainous, abounds in corn, wine, ſalt, and cattle, as well as in the beſt of iron and the fineſt of ſteel, with copper, lead, and ſome ſilver.

Gratz, its capital, is a large fortified town, having a conſiderable number of churches, chapels, and convents: but of its commerce or its manufactures, or of that of any other place in this dutchy, there is very little to be ſaid.

The dutchy of Carinthia lies weſt of Stiria, is very woody and mountainous, and its productions nearly the ſame as in Stiria.

Clagenfurt is its principal town, is well built, has ſix churches, and ſeveral monaſteries; but we know as little of its commerce and manufactures as of the before-named city of Gratz.

The dutchy of Carniola lies ſouth of Carinthia and Stiria, and, although extremely mountainous, abounds in fine fruits, and exports excellent wines, grain, iron, ſome copper and lead, timber for ſhip-building, linen, oil of olives, quickſilver, and coarſe woollen ſtuffs.

Labach, or Laybach, its chief town, has a cathedral, and ſeveral churches and convents, with ſome trade, as not being far from the gulph of Trieſte on the Adriatic Sea.

Trieſte is a town on the Adriatic Sea: the late Empreſs Queen, Maria Thereſa, fortified it, and beſtowed on it various immunities, even ſo far as to be, in ſome reſpects, a free port; ſo that many ſhips reſort to it with merchandize, and relade the merchandize of the neighbouring countries. It has a cathedral, and ſeveral churches and convents.

Fiume, otherwiſe called St. Viet, on a bay of the Adriatic Sea, is populous, has a collegiate church, ſeveral convents, and a college, as we may be certain to find in every tolerable town belonging to the Houſe of Auſtria. From hence, ſays Dr. Buſching, large quantities of merchandize are exported, which are brought from Hungary, &c. for which end the Emperor Charles VI. repaired the roads leading to it.

This dutchy of Carniola abounds with many ſtrange caves, caverns, lakes, &c. of very extraordinary kinds, and ſurprizing qualities; but theſe are foreign to our main purpoſe.

The adjoining county of Goritia, or Gorz, produces much raw ſilk, corn, and good wine.

Goritia, its chief town, has ſeven convent-churches, nine chapels, and a college.

The Anterior Auſtria contains,

I. The county of Tirol, which, though very mountainous, and, like the Alps, has the ſummits of thoſe mountains conſtantly covered with ſnow, yet is nevertheleſs very fertile, and abounds in rich mines. All the fine fruits and wines of Italy grow here; alſo, much flax and ſilk; here, likewiſe, are various precious ſtones, ſalt pits, mines of ſilver, copper, lead, alum, and vitriol.

1. Inſpruck, on the river Inn, its capital, is a large city, containing many fine churches, convents and palaces, a college, and an arſenal. This place has a very gainful trade in ſalt.

2. Bolzano is a large, though open town, famous for its four annual fairs, much frequented by merchants from Germany and Italy. In Tirol are ſeveral leſſer towns and burghs, ſome of which carry on a good trade in ſilk, &c.

3. The

3. The biſhopric of Trent lies within the ſaid great county of Tirol, and is ſubject to Auſtria. The city of Trent lies on the river Etſch, bordering on the Venetian territories: it is an old-built city, having a cathedral, three pariſh churches, a fine college, and two convents; but is not eminent in a commercial ſenſe. And the like may be ſaid of the neighbouring biſhopric and city of Brixen.

The county of Bregents, or Bregenz, has a capital town of the ſame name, ſtanding on the Boden Sea, or Lake of Conſtance; it is chiefly known for good iron works, and for great quantities of timber felled in its woods, and exported to Switzerland and Swabia.

The Auſtrian territories in Swabia are, in many places, interſected by other territories.

Conſtance, (Coſtanz, or Coſtnitz, as Dr. Buſching variouſly writes it) an ancient city on the ſouth-weſt ſhore of the lake of that name, otherwiſe called the Boden Sea, near where the river Rhine iſſues out of that lake, after paſſing through it. Its people are ſaid to be moſtly Proteſtants, although there be in it a Popiſh cathedral, a college, and three convents.

In Auſtrian Briſgau ſtand the once-ſtrong fortreſſes of Friburg and Old Briſac; both which towns are now of ſmall ſignificance, as being diſmantled. Here are many other detached towns and burghs belonging to the houſe of Auſtria, but not ſignificant enough to be particulariy ſpecified.

The tenth and laſt Circle of the German Empire is ſtiled the Circle of Burgundy: but as the greateſt part of it has been raviſhed from that empire, at different times, it is now become little more than a mere name. It contained,

1. The dutchy and county of Burgundy.
2. The dutchy of Lorrain.
3. The ſeventeen provinces of the Netherlands.
4. The electorate of Treves.
5. The biſhopric of Liege; and,
6. The dutchies of Juliers and Berg.

The firſt and ſecond are poſſeſſed by France, as alſo a conſiderable part of the third. Of the third, the republic of the Belgic provinces have got ſeven entire provinces, and ſome parts of four more, viz. of Flanders, Brabant, Limburg, and of the upper quarter of Guelderland. The fourth has partly been curtailed by France, and the reſt is annexed to the circle of the Lower Rhine. The biſhopric of Liege, from the fifth, is annexed to the circle of Weſtphalia; though commonly reckoned in the Netherlands: and the ſixth is alſo annexed to the circle of Weſtphalia. So all that properly remains of this tenth circle is only ſuch part of the ten provinces of the Netherlands as now remain under the ſubjection of Auſtria, and which we are now to deſcribe, viz.

1. The Auſtrian part of Flanders. Its ſoil is particularly fertile, and is proper for agriculture, flax, and paſturage for the breeding of cattle, horſes, and ſheep, as well as for the fineſt butter and cheeſe. It has alſo plenty of ſea and river fiſh, fruits, and garden ſtuff. This province is cultivated to the utmoſt degree of perfection, and is extremely populous; containing ſixty-two walled and open towns, and many hundreds of villages. It is well known that this province was the earlieſt of any country, without the Mediterranean, that entered into the manufacture of both woollen and linen cloth, which they held and increaſed for ſeveral centuries, until other nations have gradually excelled them both in the one and in the other.

Their principal cities and towns, are,

1. Ghent, or Gaunt, on the river Sheldt, the capital of this province. It is ſtill a very large city, with a ſtrong citadel, though much declined from its ancient opulence and ſplendour; has thirteen market-places, a grand cathedral, a collegiate, and ſix pariſh churches, two abbeys, two colleges,

ſeven monaſteries, and twenty-two nunneries, beſides many chapels and hoſpitals. It has ſtill a conſiderable linen manufacture, called Ghentings, with others of woollen cloth and ſtuffs, as alſo of ſilk. It is happily ſituated by means of its many navigable canals, &c. for a trade for corn, &c. by its communication with other towns and with the ocean. It is ten miles in circuit, has many fine ſtreets and buildings, although there be many void ſpaces within its walls.

2. Courtray, or Cortryck, contains one pariſh church, a college, eight convents, and ſome hoſpitals. It is famous for its fine linen manufacture.

3. Dendermond has two pariſh churches, and ſix convents: its neighbourhood yields plenty of grain, hemp, and flax.

4. Bruges is a large, ſtrong, and well-built, almoſt round, city: it was formerly of great renown for commerce, almoſt beyond any other in Europe, though now much decayed. It has ſo many well-contrived canals, as enables it to hold communication with Ghent, Oſtend, and Sluys, and conſequently with the ſea, from which it is but three leagues diſtant. Here is a cathedral, two collegiate and five pariſh churches, many chapels, a college, thirty-one convents, and ſeveral charitable foundations; and it has ſtill ſeveral good manufactures of fine woollen ſtuffs, tapeſtry, fuſtians, worked cottons, linen, and lace: having ſixty-eight companies of artificers, each having a ſeparate hall. Sluys was its ancient harbour, until it fell into the hands of the Dutch, when the Brugians dug another canal from Oſtend, upwards of nine miles in length, up to the city, navigable for ſhips of two hundred tons burden. It ſtill continnes to have a trade in Spaniſh wool, &c. and has in it many noble ſtructures.

5. Ypres is a ſtrong and famous city, having a cathedral, five pariſh churches, a college, fourteen convents, and ſeveral charitable foundations. Its woollen manufactory, which, like the reſt of Flanders, was much celebrated of old, is now greatly decayed; but its manufacture of table linen is ſtill conſiderable; and it is probable, that the ſort of table linen, which in England is called Diaper was originally ſo named from this city; as much as to ſay Toile d'Ypres. At its annual fair in Lent much ſilks and ſays are vended. Ypres is one of thoſe three called in records, the three good towns of Flanders; Ghent and Bruges being the other two.

6. Popperingen is a burgh, containing three churches and as many convents; has ſome woollen and large linen and tapeſtry manufactures, having ſtill a woollen cloth hall and a bay hall.

7. Tournay is a large, ſtrong, and elegant city, containing ſeventeen pariſh churches, many convents, and charitable foundations. Its manufactures are tapeſtry bed-curtains, coverlets, and worked ſtuffs.

8. Oſtend is a ſmall, but ſtrong ſea-port, at the mouth of the river Guele, chiefly memorable for its harbour, in reſpect of packet-boats and other veſſels correſponding with the Auſtrian Netherlands.

☞ It has been erected into a free port by his preſent Imperial Majeſty.

9. Nieuport, a ſea-port with no very good harbour, and therefore principally inhabited by fiſhermen.

The other towns of this and the other Netherland provinces, under the dominion of France ſhall be deſcribed with that kingdom.

AUSTRIAN HAINAULT, *viz.*

The province of Hainault, called in Dutch—Hennegau, has plenty of corn, cattle, ſheep, wool, pit-coal, timber, iron, marble, &c. It contains twenty-four towns, and ſome hundreds of villages, What the former and later conqueſts of France have ſtill left to the Houſe of Auſtria, are,

1. Mons, in Dutch named Bergen, is the largeſt, faireſt, and principal town of the whole province, containing four thouſand ſix hundred houſes, ſix pariſh churches, a college, and ſeveral convents. It is a place of good trade in woollen ſtuffs and other merchandize.

2. Aeth is a ſtrong little town, having ſome good linen manufactures.

3. Leſſinas, a ſmall town, where a conſiderable quantity of linen is made.

4. Enghien is a ſmall place, with a tapeſtry manufacture. Here are, beſides, ſome inconſiderable places.

The province of Namur is entirely Auſtrian. It is very mountainous and woody; its principal riches conſiſt in iron and ſteel; though here are alſo lead, pit-coal, marble, and all ſorts of grain in its flatter parts.

1. Charleroy, though intended merely for a fortreſs, has, nevertheleſs, numbers of iron melting-houſes for mills, forges for cannon, and other iron manufactures.

☞ Its fortifications have of late been deſtroyed in common with all the other fortified towns of the Low Countries.

Namur is a very ſtrong city, with a ſtronger citadel. It ſtands on the river Meuſe, or Maeſe, has a cathedral, ſix pariſh churches, a college, (formerly a Jeſuits,) and thirteen convents. Its principal manufacture is in hardware; particularly knives and edge tools of all kinds.

AUSTRIAN BRABANT.

The greateſt natural wealth of this province conſiſts in flax. It has nineteen walled towns, and many burghs and villages.

1. Louvain, on the river Dyle, is, in point of precedence, the firſt city of Brabant, and was once very opulent and very large. Its noble manufactures of woollen and linen, in the former part of the fourteenth century, maintained upwards of one hundred and fifty thouſand workmen, though probably not all within its walls; until, in the year 1380, or according to others 1382, the cloth weavers making an inſurrection there, for which many of them were puniſhed, the reſt withdrew into England and other parts, which cauſed the loſs of that great trade. It is eaſy to imagine the preſent ſad condition of a great city thus permanently deprived of ſuch vaſt manufactures, and therewith of its wealth and people; ſo as now to be but the mere ſhadow of what it once was. It is, however, a walled city of ſix miles in circumference; but within the walls there are meadows and gardens. Here are, however, ſome few manufactures both of woollen and linen, beſide their beer, of which they vend very large quantities all over the country. Louvain alſo has long had a very large univerſity, containing about forty colleges: here alſo are thirty convents, a collegiate church, a town houſe of the moſt beautiful gothic architecture, &c. &c.

2. Bruſſels is the ſecond city in rank: and, being the ſeat of government for all the Auſtrian provinces, it has long been a large, beautiful, and populous city, with many magnificent public and private edifices; has nine pariſh churches, and thirty-four convents, including the college. It is ſtill eminent for its manufactures of fine camblets, lace, and tapeſtry; and by its canals into the river Scheld, it has a conſiderable commerce with other parts. Here is an eſtabliſhed office or lombard for lending money on pledges, at moderate intereſt; and the public place called the Park is not equalled by any ſquare in any city of Europe.

3. Antwerp, on the Scheldt, is the third in rank, containing ſtill many magnificent edifices, both public and private.

From Louis Guicciardini's deſcription of it, in the ſixteenth century, we have, under the year 1585, given a view of it when in its meridian glory. At preſent it is a very beautiful city, has above two hundred ſtreets, a fine cathedral, four collegiate and four pariſh churches, four abbeys and a college, ten monaſteries, and nineteen nunneries, all adorned with the fineſt paintings, a ſtately ſtadt houſe, and a merchants exchange, which was the firſt ſtructure of that kind in all Europe, upon the model of which thoſe of London and Amſterdam were built. For above the ſpace of an entire century it was one of the moſt trading cities that ever exiſted. It is true, Guicciardini, in the height of its glory, does not make it much exceed one hundred thouſand ſettled inhabitants; but Doctor Buſching, in his New Geography, relates, that, about the middle of the ſixteenth century, there were in it computed upwards of two hundred thouſand inhabitants and ſtrangers. We have ſeen how much it ſuffered in the year 1576, and its miſerable ruin, in the year 1585. In the treaty of Munſter, in 1648, between Spain and Holland, it was ſtipulated, that no large ſhip ſhould be permitted to ſail up to this unfortunate city. Nevertheleſs, Antwerp's modern tapeſtry and lace manufactures are very fine; and they have an inſurance company: ſoon after the great loſs of their commerce, the Antwerpians began to turn their thoughts to banking and exchanges; as well as to jewelling and painting; in all which they excel, even in our own times.

The city of Mechlin, denominated the Fair, on the river Dyle, running into the Scheldt, is a well built place, with broad and clean ſtreets, an archiepiſcopal cathedral and palace, ſix pariſh churches, twenty-two convents, and a college. It is eminently celebrated for its manufactures of the fineſt lace, alſo for linen, tanning of leather, corn, blankets, thread, founderies for bells and cannon.

In the dutchy and province of Limburg, Limburg, its chief town, is all that is left to the Auſtrians, and is a place of little or no commercial ſignificance. The reſt of this province, as Valkenburg, Roldue, and Dalem, are to be found under the deſcription of the United Netherlands.

Auſtrian Luxemburg, or Lutzelburg, has good corn, cattle, Moſelle wine, many iron works, and founderies for cannon. Luxemburg, its capital, is a very ſtrong, though ſmall place, having been much contended for between the two great houſes of Auſtria and Bourbon. As a frontier town it retains its fortifications, which are very ſtrong, and always a large garriſon. It has a college and ſome convents, but is not a commercial place. Here are many ſmall towns and villages, but they are too near the frontiers of France to enjoy any thing conſiderable in commerce or manufactures, as they have been ſo often ravaged by that reſtleſs nation.

Auſtrian Guelderland contains the ſtrong town of Roermund, or Ruremond, on the river Roer, which here runs into the Maeſe. It is the largeſt place in this dutchy; but it has ſo frequently been beſieged and taken, as to be of no commercial conſideration. In this country are alſo many villages. The ſtrong town of Gueldres, and ſome leſſer towns and villages, in what is called the upper quarter of Guelderland, belong to the King of Pruſſia, but are not memorable in a commercial light.

And this is all that is left of what may now by properly called the circle of Burgundy.

Two very obvious reaſons have naturally led us to be more copious on the German empire than on any other country of Europe, viz.

Firſt, The great number of independent ſtates and of free imperial cities with their diſtricts; each of which have generally, more or leſs, required a diſtinct conſideration, as well in a political as in a commercial ſenſe.

Secondly, The vaſt improvements, within the compaſs of one century paſt, in manufactures, manual arts, agriculture, and water carriage, for the convenience of commerce; principally effected in in the more northern circles, and eſpecially in thoſe of Upper and Lower Saxony, in a very great degree occaſioned by the acceſſion of ſo great a number of ſober, uſeful, ingenious and induſtrious foreigners, which required a more particular animadverſion; whereas in all, or moſt of the other ſingle ſtates and monarchies of Europe, there is a kind of identity or ſameneſs to be found in moſt of the above particulars, as well as in their religious and civil economy; which countries therefore do not require ſo particular an enlargement as Germany ſeemed abſolutely to demand.

The EUROPEAN TERRITORIES *of the* *STATES GENERAL* *of the* *UNITED NETHERLANDS.*

Notwithſtanding all that may be ſaid of the low, moiſt, and marſhy ſoil, and of the thick air of the far greater part of the ſeven United Provinces of the Netherlands, and of their heaths and barren ſandy downs, and that they in general are unable to afford ſufficient ſuſtenance, and leaſt of all corn, for their numerous inhabitants; yet ſuch diſadvantages may be ſaid to be well compenſated by their moſt extenſive foreign commerce and navigation, immenſe fiſheries, rich paſtures ſupplying vaſt quantities of excellent butter and cheeſe, of which great quantities are exported; the cheeſe, particularly of the Texel and Edam, being famous all over Europe. Holland has an infinite number of good ſheep, bearing excellent wool: in Guelderland grows tobacco, &c. and Zealand, good madder, and has ſalt made from ſea water; Zutphen alſo yields ſome iron ſtone. They have moſt convenient water carriage beyond any other country of Europe, and a happy ſituation for an eaſy communication with other nations.

The ſeven United Provinces, according to Dr. Buſching, contain one hundred and thirteen cities and towns, one thouſand four hundred villages, and about two millions of inhabitants; beſide the twenty-five towns, and the people in what is called the lands of the Generality, or conquered countries and towns of other parts of the Netherlands. The vaſt populouſneſs of the United Provinces, and eſpecially of that of Holland, beyond any other country in Europe of ſo ſmall an extent, is principally owing to the very great variety of their manufactures, fabrications, and other manual improvements, as well as to the great extent of their foreign commerce, navigation, and fiſheries; whereby ſuch numbers of people are employed and maintained at home, in numberleſs ways, ſuch as, their pottery, tobacco pipes, delft-ware, finely refined ſalt; their oil mills, ſtarch manufactures—their improvements of the raw linen thread of Germany—their hemp and fine paper manufactures—their fine linen and table damaſks—their ſaw mills for timber for ſhipping and houſes, in immenſe quantities—their great ſugar-baking—their vaſt woollen, cotton, and ſilk manufactures—wax bleaching—leather dreſſing;—the great quantity of their coin and ſpecie, aſſiſted by their banks, moſt eſpecially by that of Amſterdam—their Eaſt India trade—and their general induſtry and frugality. Yet we doubt it cannot be denied, that, great as their commerce, manufactures, and fiſheries are, they have, for ſome time, been in a retrograde ſtate; by ſome imputed to the too general relaxation of their priſtine frugality; though, by others, much more owing to the great improvements made by other nations, almoſt every where, in their commerce, navigation, manufactures, fiſheries, &c.

We ſhall begin with the moſt opulent province of Holland, and with

1. Dort, or Dordrecht, the firſt city, in point of ſeniority or precedency, of that province.

This city was the ancient place of reſidence of the Earls of Holland and Zealand. Doctor Buſching relates, that in the year 1732, it was computed to contain three thouſand nine hundred and fifty-four houſes, and eighteen thouſand inhabitants. It has a moſt commodious harbour and conſiderable

ſiderable trade, eſpecially in grain, Rheniſh and other wines, in timber brought rough down the Rhine in ſummer, and here, at its many mills, ſawed and prepared for various uſes.

2. Haarlem, the ſecond town, in point of precedence, of this province, enjoys a communication with Amſterdam and Leyden, by means of two ſpacious canals; and in the ſaid year 1732, contained ſeven thouſand nine hundred and ſixty-three houſes, and fifty thouſand inhabitants. Its manufactures of woollen cloth, ſilk, and linen, though ſtill conſiderable, are yet greatly declined from what they formerly were. It employs many people in the bleaching of their famous and fine linens, tapes and thread.

3. Delft, the third in rank, is a fine town, and in the ſaid year 1732, contained four thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy houſes and twenty-five thouſand inhabitants. This city is properly the arſenal for the whole province of Holland, having, for that end, four powder magazines. Its fine earthen ware is famous all over Europe; and it was formerly known for its woollen cloth and beer.

Delftſhaven, near it, is a large, flouriſhing town on the Maeſe, with a good harbour; at which lye the Eaſt India ſhips, herring-buſſes, &c. belonging to the city of Delft.

4. Leyden is the fourth in rank, and in magnitude is the largeſt and fineſt of the province, next after Amſterdam. It contained in the ſaid year 1732, ten thouſand eight hundred and ninety-one houſes, and, at only ſix perſons to each houſe, comprehends ſixty-five thouſand three hundred and forty-ſix perſons, yet others make them ſeventy thouſand. Doctor Buſching thinks its formerly celebrated woollen cloth manufactures, which annually amounted to one hundred thouſand pieces of cloths, ſtuffs, and camblets, are leſſening very much. Since the twelfth century, Leyden has been four times enlarged. Mr. Nugent reckons in it one hundred and eighty ſtreets. Its famous univerſity has ſometimes had two thouſand ſtudents, though uſually not near ſo many; and its orphan houſe contains nine hundred children.

5. Amſterdam, the fifth in rank, is, beyond compariſon, the firſt in commerce, opulence, and magnitude, of all theſe provinces. It is ſituated at the influx of the little river Amſtel, running through it; and although, by reaſon of the ſhallowneſs of the Pampus, (the only paſſage leading up to it out of the Zuyder Zee) it might be thought but indifferently ſituated for maritime commerce, as ſhips of burden muſt be lightened in order to paſs through it, and muſt afterward wait for an eaſterly or north-eaſt wind to go through the Marſdiep into the north ſea; yet ſo far the ſituation of Amſterdam is advantageous, that the other towns of the province can eaſily ſend their merchandize thither, and receive returns, and that, with a fair wind, it is but a few hours paſſage to or from all the ports of North Holland, Frieſland, Overyſſel, and Guelderland. In the ſame year 1732, its houſes were numbered, and amounted to thirty-two thouſand ſix hundred and eighty-five; and its inhabitants, according to Dr. Buſching, were at moſt two hundred thouſand.—That from 1747 to 1752, comprehending the ſpace of ſix years, the burials here were, at a medium, eight thouſand two hundred and forty-ſeven yearly. Now as in large and very populous cities, it is generally computed that one out of thirty perſons die annually, then, multiplying eight thouſand two hundred and forty-ſeven by thirty, the number of this city's inhabitants will come out to be two hundred and forty-ſeven thouſand four hundred and ten perſons, which comes much nearer the moſt uſual computation of Amſterdam's inhabitants, *i. e.* about two hundred and fifty or two hundred and ſixty thouſand perſons. Yet others, as we have ſeen, compute them no higher than two hundred and forty-one thouſand. The ſaid author thinks it the greateſt trading city in Europe; though poſſibly, all things conſidered, the city of London may merit the preference, more eſpecially in later times. To ſay that Amſterdam abounds in merchants, manufacturers, and artificers, is ſaying no more

than what the famous aſtronomer, Copernicus, ſaid of it two hundred and fifty years ago, when it was much leſs conſiderable; "That at Amſterdam all men were employed in trading." *Ubi nemo non Mercaturam exercet.* In Collier's Tranſlation and Additions to Moreri's hiſtorical Dictionary, this great city is juſtly celebrated for its vaſt numbers of ſhips and ſeamen—its infinite quantities of all kinds of merchandize whatever, from all parts of the world—its fine canals and bridges, ſpacious and neat ſtreets, piazzas and churches—its infinite magazines of naval ſtores—its docks and wharfs, and its ſtore-houſes of all kinds of merchandize, worthy of the higheſt admiration—her numerous hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations—her moſt famous bank, thought to contain the greateſt treaſure upon earth, (of which we have treated at large under the year 1609)—its moſt magnificent ſtadt-houſe, which, according to Sir William Temple, is thought to have coſt in all about three millions ſterling; and the beauties and architecture whereof have long ſince required, and have employed an entire volume fully to deſcribe them.

6. Gouda, or Tergow, on the little river Gouwe, is the ſixth city in rank. In the ſaid year 1732, it contained three thouſand nine hundred and ſeventy-four houſes and twenty thouſand people. Moſt of the veſſels employed in the trade between Holland, Zealand, and the Auſtrian Netherlands, paſs through this place, ſteering their courſe from the Gouwe into the Yſſel, and through the latter into the Merwe. Thread, cordage, and tobacco pipes, are its proper manufactures.

7. Rotterdam is a large, opulent, and great commercial port and city, ſecond to none in the province, in this reſpect, but to Amſterdam: it lies on the Maeſe, which here receives the Rotter. By the deep canals which run up into the heart of this city, ſhips of great burden lade and unlade at the merchants doors. It is, in a great degree, a ſtaple for wines from France and Germany; and it is alſo the place of the greateſt reſort of ſhipping to and from Great Britain of any port of the Netherlands. Here are refiners of ſalt, and many manufacturers in glaſs. By means of the Rhine and Maeſe, this city alſo carries on a great inland commerce into Germany, and to the north parts of France. In 1732, its houſes were computed to amount to ſix thouſand ſix hundred and twenty-one, and its inhabitants to fifty-ſix thouſand.

8. Gorcum, on the Merwe, the eighth town in rank, contained in the ſaid year, only one thouſand three hundred and ninety-eight houſes, and ſix thouſand ſix hundred people. It is a fortified town, and carries on a great trade in corn and ſalmon.

9. Schiedam, on the Maeſe, where the river Schie is by a ſluice conveyed into it, contains one thouſand five hundred and eighty-four houſes, and eight thouſand people; it has many herring buſſes, for the benefit whereof its people are much employed in making of nets.

10. Schonhoven, on the river Leck, has but two thouſand five hundred inhabitants. And,

11. Briel, or Brill, on the iſle of Voorne, near the mouth of the Maeſe, has about four thouſand people. Theſe two are indeed but inconſiderable towns, though they are both well fortified. And although theſe eleven towns are all that, in South Holland, are privileged to ſend deputies to the aſſembly of the ſtates of the province of Holland, yet there are other good, and ſome ſtrong towns, which have not that privilege.

1. The Hague is a large and beautiful town, though without either walls or gates: in the ſaid year 1732, it was found to contain ſix thouſand one hundred and ſixty-four houſes, many of which are finely built, beſide its public and national edifices. It is a place of much public buſineſs and ſplendor, where the aſſemblies of the States General, the States of Holland, the Councils of State and of War, and many other national offices are kept, and where all foreign ambaſſadors and envoys uſually reſide. The Hague therefore being the ſeat of government, though no ſea port, nor famed

for any particular manufacture, is a place abounding in all neceſſaries and conveniencies whatever, and has a great circulation of money, being indeed the moſt magnificent open town, or the moſt illuſtrious village, in the known world, containing no leſs than fifty thouſand inhabitants: yet ſome compute twelve thouſand people leſs in number.

2. Vlardingen is a large town, ſituated on the Maeſe, from whence there ſail annually a greater number of herring buſſes than from all the other ports of the Netherlands: for in the year 1753, the total number of thoſe buſſes, from all the United Provinces, were one hundred and ſeventy-three, of which one hundred and twelve belonged to Vlardingen.

3. Maeſland-Sluice is a large village, on a branch of the Maeſe, whoſe inhabitants are chiefly employed in the herring and whale fiſheries.

The iſles belonging to South Holland, at or near the mouth of the rivers Maeſe and Leck, are Yſſelmond, Voorn, on which ſtands the ports of Briel and Helvoetſluyce, Stryen, Flaaque, and Goeree; none of which are conſiderable enough to require any particular deſcription.

North-Holland, otherwiſe called Weſt-Frieſland, is the much ſmaller part of the province, and contains the following principal places, viz.

1. Alkmaar, the firſt in point of rank, contained in the year 1732, two thouſand five hundred and eighty-one houſes, and fifteen thouſand people. It carries on a large trade in grain, fine cheeſe and butter.

2. Hoorne, on the Zuyder Sea, has a convenient harbour, and contained in 1732, two thouſand eight hundred and ſeventeen houſes, and about twelve thouſand inhabitants. Here is an Eaſt India chamber, and an admiralty college, held here alternately with Enkhuiſen and Medenblick; it is alſo the ſeat of the mint. Here alſo are ſhips of war as well as merchant ſhips built: it trades much in butter and cheeſe, and alſo with Denmark, from whence are brought back lean black cattle to be fattened in their rich paſtures.

3. Enkhuiſen, in 1732, contained two thouſand ſix hundred houſes and eleven thouſand inhabitants; it ſtands on the Zuyder Sea, and is well fortified. Here they build many ſhips, and from thence they formerly were wont to ſend out annually four or five hundred herring buſſes; but at preſent only ſixty on that fiſhery. Here is likewiſe an Eaſt India and Weſt India chamber, a cannon foundery, and ſalt works.

4. Edam, on the Zuyder Sea, has about one thouſand houſes, and four thouſand people, was once famous for its cheeſe. Its ſhip building and timber trade is conſiderable, and it has ſome ſalt works.

5. Monikendam, on the ſame ſea, is a decayed port, having about ſeven hundred houſes, and two thouſand people; its port is now choaked up with ſand.

6. Medenblik, on that ſea, and of about the ſame bigneſs, to appearance; its principal trade is in timber from Norway. It contains about two thouſand five hundred people.

7. Purmerend is the ſeventh and laſt of the voting towns of North-Holland, having about ſix hundred houſes, and about two thouſand inhabitants; its trade being in cheeſe and cattle.

Beſide theſe, there is,

8. Sardam, a large and wealthy town, on the Zuyder Sea, where many rich merchants reſide, and deal largely in timber, grain, and train oil: their ſhip building is very conſiderable, though not ſo vaſt as formerly, when it was ſaid to have been able to build as many ſhips in a year as there are days in it. Beyond all, it is moſt remarkable for the vaſt multitude and variety of its wind mills; as, ſaw-mills, oil-mills, peas-mills, colour-mills, paper-mills, fulling-mills, ſnuff-mills, coffee-mills, muſtard-mills, &c. ſo as to be really aſtoniſhing, if their number be ſo many, according to

Dr. Buſching, as two thouſand three hundred. This place too is alſo ſo conſiderable as to have in it printers and bookſellers.

The iſle of Texel is very near this continent, and is fertile in corn, and ſheep with good wool. Here is a commodious road for ſhipping, the rendezvous of all the Eaſt India ſhips from Amſterdam, Hoorn, and Enkhuiſen, being ſafe under the cannon of a fort, whilſt waiting for their laſt orders, or for a fair wind. The other iſles of Flieland, Schelling, &c. are inconſiderable, and are all ſuppoſed to have been once joined to the main land.

The province of Zealand conſiſts entirely of iſlands, formed by the branches or ſea ſtreams of the river Scheldt, and were probably once joined to the province of Flanders. They are very fertile in excellent wheat, fruits, fine paſtures covered with fine ſheep. Here is plenty of all kinds of proviſion and fiſh, and are only wanting in fuel, with which, eſpecially turf, they are forced to be ſupplied from other provinces, and with coals from England in great quantities. The whole province contains eleven towns and one hundred and ten villages; and its people are eſteemed the moſt wealthy of all the Netherlands, owing to their happy and very convenient ſituation for maritime commerce.

The iſle of Walcheren is the moſt populous of thoſe iſles, and contains three good trading towns, viz.

1. Middelburg, the capital of the whole province, is a large, fine, and ſtrong city, and a place of great maritime commerce and ſhipping, with a conſiderable ſhare of the Eaſt and Weſt India, and other trades. It has, at its harbour's entrance, the fort of Rammekins, which was one of the three cautionary places pawned to Queen Elizabeth: here are no fewer than twenty churches, and many rich merchants. It is the ſtaple for the wines of France, Spain, and Portugal.

2. Fluſhing is a well fortified and extremely well ſituated town for maritime commerce, even beyond any other town in the Netherlands, having two harbours, the old one ſerving for merchant ſhips, the other is capable of admitting up to the town a fleet of eighty of the largeſt ſhips of war, and here is a large dock for ſhipping.

3. Veere (called alſo Kampveer, Campveer, and Ter Veere) is ſmaller than Fluſhing; yet it enjoys a conſiderable trade, more eſpecially with Scotland, which has many of its people reſiding here, with a church and miniſter for their nation, paid by the States of Zealand: here is alſo a conſul called the Judge Conſervator of the Scotiſh mercantile privileges in the Netherlands; which is, and for ſome centuries paſt has been, an office of dignity, and is always appointed by the King of Great Britain.

Neither Dr. Buſching, nor any other author we have met with, has given us the number of houſes or inhabitants in theſe Zealand cities: nor indeed in many other cities they pretend to deſcribe in ſundry other parts of Europe.

In this iſland are alſo many large villages.

South-Beveland is the largeſt and pleaſanteſt of all the Zealand iſles: it has Goes, or Tergoes, a pretty good town, with a conſiderable trade; and alſo many villages.

North-Beveland has only villages on it.

Schouwen has the very ancient town and port of Zirikſee, formerly a place of great commerce, by its fiſhery, ſalt mines, and foreign trade: it has ſtill about eighty ſhips of its own, trading to Spain, Portugal, &c. its principal commodities conſiſting in ſalt, mead, and immenſe quantities of oyſters.

Duiveland has only villages on it.

Ter-Tholen has on it a town of the ſame name, being the fourth and laſt of the four towns of Zealand.

The province of Utrecht has the city of

1. Utrecht, for its capital, in a healthful ſituation, and is allowed to be a fine ancient city, ſituated on the channel of the old Rhine. It is ſtrong and large, has many fine churches, and a noble univerſity. Its market place or piazza is very fair, and is the center of ſeveral long ſtreets, inhabited by many perſons of rank and quality. Here is a good inland trade, and a manufacture for ſilk-throwing.

2. Amersfort ſtands on a navigable river falling into the Zuyder Sea, and is the next beſt town of this province; carries on a naval communication with Amſterdam, in German merchandize, brought to it by land carriage. Here are ſome newly eſtabliſhed manufactures of dimity and bombazeen. In this province is produced much tobacco.

The province of Frieſland reſembles Holland in its many canals, (having undoubtedly been originally conjoined to it, before the irruption of the ocean into the place now termed the Zuyder Sea) and in the fertility of its ſoil. It has a greater proportion than Holland of good wheat and pulſe, breeds large and excellent horſes, of which great numbers are exported to Germany and other parts. It has eleven towns and three hundred and thirty-ſix villages, and is well known for its various woollen ſtuffs, and much more ſo for its linen, the fineſt in Europe, ſome of which, according to Dr. Buſching, has been ſold at twelve Dutch guilders, or about twenty ſhillings ſterling, per ell. Its principal town and ſeat of government, is,

1. Leeuwarden, three miles in compaſs, having, by its many canals and ſtreams, a conſiderable commerce with Holland, Embden, Bremen, and Hamburg, although it has no harbour.

2. Harlingen, a ſea port, is its next beſt town; here is the admiralty college for this province; and it makes great quantities of ſalt.

3. Franeker is a handſome town and an univerſity, though in point of commerce it is inconſiderable, as are all the other towns and villages, as alſo the two iſles on its coaſt.

The adjoining province of Groningen very much reſembles Frieſland, in its ſoil, low ſituation, and its many canals and dykes. It has three towns and one hundred and ſixty-five villages.

Groningen, its capital, is the ſeat of government, ſtands on the river Hunſe, which brings large ſhips up to it. It has a good trade, is large, wealthy, and well inhabited, and has alſo an univerſity. By means of its canals, the Dollert Sea, and the neighbouring river Ems, it has a conſiderable commerce. It contains three churches, twenty-ſeven ſpacious ſtreets, and was formerly a Hans-town.

The country of Drenthe, ſouth of and adjoining to this province, though it has no right to have any repreſentatives to the States General, yet is under their protection. It is merely an inland and marſhy country.

Aſſen, its chief town, is well built; and Coevorden is a very ſtrong place, in the middle of a moraſs, near the frontier of Germany.

The province of Overyſſel has ſixteen towns and but eighteen villages; for, being more barren, it is not ſo well inhabited nor cultivated as moſt of the other provinces. Here are three of its towns that ſend repreſentatives to the aſſembly of the States General, viz.

1. Deventer, on the Yſſel, is a ſtrong town, having four churches; it is populous, though not very large, is the ſeat of government, and has a very good trade: its beer is ſo very good, that a great deal of it is exported. Here is an iron foundery. It was originally one of the Hans-towns.

2. Zwolle is the fineſt and richeſt town in the province, has a naval communication and trade down the Yſſel into the Zuyder Sea, and is a very ſtrong place. Its chief trade is in timber. It was alſo formerly an Hans-town.

3. Kampen, or Campen, near the mouth of the Yſſel, is ſmaller than the other two towns; and, although it has ſtill ſome trade, yet its harbour on the Zuyder Sea is much choaked up, ſo that it is now a declining place, though it had formerly a conſiderable trade, and was a confederate of the Hanſeatic League.

The other places are inconſiderable.

The province of Dutch Guelderland, including in its appurtenance the county of Zutphen, has the beſt air of any of the Seven United Provinces, and its ſoil is moſtly good: its principal towns are,

1. Nimmegen, a ſtrong fortreſs on the river Waal, being the utmoſt eaſtern boundary of the Netherlands. It contains two Dutch churches, a French Calviniſt, and a Lutheran church; five Popiſh churches, and ſeveral hoſpitals. It was formerly an Hans-town and an imperial city. It is the ſeat of government, has a canal to Arnheim, and a good trade to ſome parts of Germany; it trades alſo in fine beer brewing, fattening of cattle, and exporting of its fine butter into all the other provinces.

2. 3. Bommel and Tiel lie on the Waal, but are both decayed and inconſiderable places.

4. Zutphen is a large and ſtrong town on both ſides the Yſſel; it was formerly a Hans-town, and had a great trade, but is ſince ſomewhat decayed. It now contains five Proteſtant churches and one Popiſh church, a gymnaſium or great ſchool, ſeveral hoſpitals and other charitable foundations and public edifices.

5. Arnheim is a ſtrong town on the Rhine, containing three Dutch Calviniſt churches, and one Lutheran church; but in reſpect of commerce, it is much decayed from what it once was.

6. Harderwyk, a port-town on the Zuyder Sea, and an univerſity. This is alſo a decayed town, yet ſtill carries on a conſiderable trade in corn, timber, and the fiſheries.

Theſe three laſt-named towns have ſcarcely recovered the damages done by the French in the year 1672.

The Generality Lands are ſuch parts of the other provinces as the ſeven United Provinces have ſubdued by their joint arms; and therefore have this name given them, as belonging jointly to all the United Netherlands.

1. In Dutch Brabant is the quarter of Bois le Duc, as the French call it, or, in Dutch, Hertogenboſch. It is a ſtrong and moderately large town, on a navigable river which runs into the Scheldt at Fort Crevecœur. Its trade and navigation are conſiderable, which are much aſſiſted by the many canals in its neighbourhood.

2. Oſterwyk quarter is much employed in the woollen manufactures; and the town of that name has ſix villages in its precinct.

3. Eindhoven is an open town, chiefly employed in the woollen manufacture; which, as well as Grave and Ravenſtein, belong to the Prince of Orange.

4. Breda, a fortified town, containing, according to Dr. Buſching, fifteen hundred houſes, though other writers are of opinion that it contains many more. It belongs to the Prince of Orange; but, although it has a communication with the ſea, by a ſmall navigable river, its commerce and woollen manufactures are greatly decayed.

5. The lordſhip and ſtrong little town of Willemſtadt has only about one hundred houſes in it, though a good ſea-port. It belongs alſo to the Prince of Orange; as does likewiſe Steenbergen, another ſtrong little town of about one hundred and fifty houſes.

Bergen-op-Zoom is a very ſtrongly fortified town, with eleven hundred houſes. It communicates with the river Scheldt by the means of its good harbour. Although the marquiſate or territory of Bergen-op-Zoom belongs to the Elector-Palatine, yet the town itſelf is ſubject to the States-General of the United Provinces.

Fort Frederick-Henry and Fort Lillo, are on the banks of the Scheldt, below Antwerp.

Maeſtricht, in the biſhopric of Liege, on both ſides the river Maeſe, is one of the ſtrongeſt fortreſſes belonging to the States General: that part of it ſtanding on the right of the Scheldt is called Wyk, and is joined to Maeſtricht by a grand fortified ſtone-bridge. It is one of the principal keys of the Maeſe. The houſes within its walls are about three thouſand. Its woollen manufactures, once ſo conſiderable, are now much decayed. The ſovereignty of the town belongs jointly to the States General and the Biſhop of Liege. It contains four Proteſtant churches, and ſix Popiſh ones, eight convents of Monks, eleven nunneries, and a college; with ſeveral other fine public edifices. Its magiſtracy conſiſts of an equal number of Calviniſts and Romaniſts, and the latter muſt be natives of the biſhopric of Liege.

Valkenburg, Rolduc, and Dalem, three ſmall towns in the dutchy of Limburg, belong partly to the States General, with part of their dependencies, though but of little importance; as does likewiſe a part of what is called the Upper Quarter of Guelderland, viz.

1. Venlo, a ſtrong town on the Maeſe, containing about nine hundred houſes, but nothing of commerce.

2. Stevenſwaerd, a ſtrong fort on an iſland in the Maeſe, for preſerving the communication between Venlo and Maeſtricht.

Dutch Flanders contains Sluys, its largeſt town. It was formerly the proper ſea-port of Bruges; but when it fell into the hands of the Dutch, the Brugians dug a canal from their city to Oſtend, and thereby made the latter their ſea port. The once famous harbour of Sluys is now ſo choaked up as to admit only ſmall veſſels: and its air is ſo unhealthy, that the Dutch garriſon is changed every year. The iſle of Cadzant, on this coaſt, has been partly ſwept away by the ſea; but what remains is now fenced with ſtrong dykes, and yields excellent wheat. On it are ſettled great numbers of French and Saltſburg refugees.

2. Biervliet, a ſmall town on the Weſt Scheldt, is now much fallen from its ancient greatneſs, by inundations.

3. In the bailiage of Hulſt ſtand the ſmall towns of Hulſt and Axel, both well fortified.

4. Sas van Ghent is a ſmall fortreſs on a branch of the Weſtern Scheldt, below the city of Ghent. Here alſo are numbers of other inconſiderable places belonging to the Dutch.

☞ By the barrier-treaty between the Emperor and the States General, in the year 1715, the Dutch were to garriſon Namur, Tournay, Menin, Furnes, Ypres, Warneton, and Fort Knoque; and the ſaid two potentates agreed to keep up forty thouſand men therein, on the probability of a war, and more if an actual war, but that treaty was little regarded on either ſide.

The KINGDOMS of GREAT-BRITAIN and IRELAND.

The Iſland of Great Britain may be conſidered both in a geographical and commercial ſenſe, as comprehending two diſtinct parts, viz. England, the richer and greater; and Scotland, the ſmaller and leſs conſiderable part: although in a legal and political ſenſe, thoſe two parts have been indiſſolubly united ever ſince the year 1707.

I. Eng-

I. England is the more level and fertile part of this noble iſland, and Scotland more mountainous and in its northern and north-weſtern parts more cold and barren, though enjoying a pure and healthy air.

England is often ſubject to damps, fogs, and much variable weather; yet the country is uncommonly fertile, almoſt always abounding in plenty of corn, and excellent vegetables and fruit; in cyder, perry, ſaffron, liquorice, woad, excellent timber both for houſe and ſhip-building, as alſo for fuel; almoſt inexhauſtible pit-coal; the fineſt paſtures, horſes, and horned cattle; and ſheep, a moſt profitable article beyond any other, on account of the nobleſt manufacture upon earth. The mines and manufactures of England are alſo very conſiderable, and the latter continually increaſing; and her tin mines of Cornwall have not their parallel in any other part of Europe, nor perhaps in the whole world. In her mountains are found marble, alabaſter, chryſtal, alum, and vitriol; her ſea-coaſts and rivers abound in the greateſt quantities of the beſt kinds of fiſh.

II. In Scotland they are making many improvements in agriculture, and in the greater production of hemp and flax, for the further increaſingtheir already extenſive very fine and valuable linen manufacture. It alſo abounds in horned cattle, ſheep, and a ſmaller breed of hardy horſes; in vaſt quantities of pit-coal, though not equal to that of England; and in plenty of lead, of ſalmon in its rivers, and an inexhauſtible abundance of fiſh in her ſeas.

III. Ireland, though abounding in lakes and bogs, is nevertheleſs a noble iſland. Its agriculture is greatly improved, and its cultivation of hemp, and yet more of flax, is become very conſiderable; alſo her linen manufacture is grown almoſt to be a prodigy, even in the ſpace of a few years.

Dr. Buſching makes the inhabitants of Great Britain amount to nine millions, which is probably near the truth; and the people of Ireland are nearly computed at two millions two hundred and fifty thouſand.

The foreign commerce of England is immenſe.

ENGLAND.

1. To Turkey, England ſends woollen cloths, tin, lead, and iron, ſolely in her own ſhipping; and brings from thence raw-ſilk, carpets, galls, and other dying drugs, cotton, fruits, medicinal drugs, coffee, &c. Dr. Buſching relates, that a very eminent Turkey merchant at London aſſured him, "that the balance of this trade in England's favour was, to his certain knowledge, near ſix "hundred thouſand pounds per annum;" which we heartily wiſh may be true, though we have too much ground to doubt it.

2. To Italy, England exports woollen goods of various kinds, peltry, leather, lead, tin, fiſh, and Eaſt India goods; and brings back raw and thrown ſilk, wines, oil, ſoap, olives, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, dried fruits, colours, anchovies, &c. And the ſame author thinks, the balance of this trade, in favour of Italy, cannot be leſs than two hundred thouſand pounds per annum.

3. To Spain, England ſends all kinds of woollen goods, leather, lead, tin, fiſh, corn, iron and braſs manufactures, haberdaſhery wares, aſſortments of linen from Germany and elſewhere for her American colonies; and receives in return, wines, oils, dried fruits, oranges, lemons, olives, wools, indigo, cochineal and other dying drugs, colours, gold and ſilver coins, &c. And is, without doubt, a gainful trade for England, though leſs ſo than it was formerly, before other nations, and more eſpecially France, interfered ſo much of late years.

4. To Portugal, England ſends moſtly the ſame kinds of merchandize as to Spain: and makes returns in vaſt quantities of wines, with oils, ſalt, dried and moiſt fruits, dying drugs, and gold coins; and, undoubtedly much to the advantage of England.

5. To France, England ſends tobacco, lead, tin, flannels, horns, hardware, Mancheſter goods, &c. &c. and ſometimes corn; and brings home, wines, brandies, linen, cambricks, lace, velvets, brocades, &c.

☞ As a commercial treaty has ſo lately taken place between the two kingdoms, it is impoſſible to ſtate the relative operations of it, and the balance of profit and loſs to either country.

6. To Flanders, England ſends ſerges, flannels, tin, lead, ſugars, and tobacco; and makes returns in fine lace, linen, cambricks, &c. to England's diſadvantage, according to Dr. Buſching, to the amount of two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſterling yearly.

7. To Germany, England ſends cloth and ſtuffs, tin, pewter, ſugars, tobacco, and Eaſt India merchandize: and brings from thence vaſt quantities of linen, thread, goat-ſkins, tinned plates, timbers for all uſes, wines, and many other articles: and Dr. Buſching thinks the balance againſt England may amount annually to five hundred thouſand pounds.

8. To Norway, England ſends a ſmall quantity of tobacco, and of woollen ſtuffs; and, it is ſaid, one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds in money; and brings from thence vaſt quantities of deal and other timber.

9. To Sweden, England ſends ſome few manufactures, and about two hundred thouſand pounds annually in money; and brings back from thence much iron, timber, tar, copper, &c.

10. To Ruſſia, England ſends much woollen cloth and ſtuffs, tin, lead, tobacco, diamonds, houſhold furniture, &c. and makes return in hemp, flax, linen, thread, furs, pot-aſh, iron, wax, tallow, &c. And by this trade England loſes, according to the opinion of ſome, four hundred thouſand pounds annually.

11. To Holland, England ſends an immenſe quantity of many ſorts of merchandize; ſuch as all kinds of woollen goods, hides, corn, coals, Eaſt India and Turkey merchandize, tobacco, tar, ſugar, rice, ginger, and other American productions: and makes return in fine linen, lace, cambricks, thread, tapes, incle, madder, boards, drugs, whalebone, train-oil, toys, and many other things. And the balance is uſually ſuppoſed to be much in favour of England.

12. To Ireland, England ſends almoſt all kinds of merchandize, linen and woollen ſtuffs and proviſions alone excepted; and, doubtleſs, reaps great advantage thereby. Although, of late years, Ireland's great and increaſing importations of linen into England, may, in time, turn the balance againſt England, notwithſtanding the great ſums of money ſpent in England by Ireland's abſentees. Ireland moreover enjoys the benefit of a direct commerce to moſt parts of Europe, viz. with the Netherlands, France, Spain, and Portugal, with her hides, tallow, ſalted beef, pork, and butter. The returns whereof helps to pay England what they have from thence.

13. To America, England ſends her product and manufactures of almoſt every kind; and from thence ſhe returns with tobacco, ſugars, rice, ginger, indigo, drugs, logwood, timber, &c.

14. To the Coaſt of Guinea, England ſends various ſorts of coarſe woollen and linen, iron, pewter, braſs, and hardware manufactures, lead-ſhot, ſwords, knives, fire-arms, gunpowder, glaſs manufactures, &c. And, beſide its drawing no money out of the kingdom, it ſupplies her American colonies with negro ſlaves, amounting in number to one hundred thouſand annually; and moreover brings home to England gold-duſt, dying, and other drugs, red-wood, Guinea grains, ivory, &c. This trade therefore is extremely profitable to England.

To Arabia, Perſia, Eaſt India, and China, England ſends much foreign ſilver coin and bullion, and Engliſh manufactures of woollen goods, and of lead, iron, and braſs; and brings home from thoſe remote regions, muſlins and cottons of many various kinds, calicoes, raw and wrought ſilk, chintz, teas, porcelain, gold-duſt, coffee, ſaltpetre, and many other drugs, &c. And ſo great a quantity of thoſe various merchandize are re-exported to foreign European nations, as more than abundantly compenſates for all the ſilver bullion which England carries out.

In order for a deſcription of its ſeveral parts, we ſhall begin with

I. Cornwall:—This county's mountains ſupply an immenſe quantity of excellent tin, and alſo ſome copper.—Its beſt towns are, Falmouth, a pretty modern town, and though become of later years larger than moſt other towns of this county, yet ſends no members to Parliament. It has a good harbour, ſome foreign commerce, and is finely ſituated for the ſtation of the packet-boats to Spain and Portugal.—Penzance is a well-built and populous ſea-port town, of conſiderable commerce.—And the ſame may be ſaid of Truro, it having three pariſh churches.—Launceſton, though the county town, is ſomewhat decayed. A neighbouring hill is famous for its Corniſh diamonds.—Weſtward from the Land's End lie the iſles of Scilly, ſix in number; St. Mary's is the beſt and moſt fertile of them, and has a good harbour.

II. Devonſhire has both tin and lead mines, with manufactures of the fineſt ſerges or perpetuanos, kerſies, bonelace, and excellent cyder.—Plymouth, is a large town, with a noble harbour, a large royal dock for ſhips of war, a royal citadel, and other forts and batteries; and with the buildings and people, and its extenſive dock, may probably contain about twenty thouſand people.—Dartmouth is a flouriſhing port of trade, with a good fortified harbour. Theſe two lie on the Engliſh Channel.—Biddeford, on the Britiſh Channel, and Barnſtaple, near it, are both handſome ſea-port towns, with good harbours; the former chiefly trades in fiſh, the latter in wines.

Exeter is a large, opulent, and ancient commercial city, on the river Ex, containing twenty-two churches and chapels, five meeting-houſes, and ſeveral hoſpitals and other charity foundations, containing about twenty thouſand inhabitants. It is eminent for its great trade in fine perpetuanos and ſerges, to the value, as commonly ſaid, of ſix hundred thouſand pounds per annum, and has alſo a good foreign commerce. Mr. Salmon, in his Modern Gazetteer, obſerves, "That it is generally ſtiled the London of the Weſt, there being no city between that and the Land's End, which lies about one hundred miles weſt of it." Ships of one hundred and fifty tons may unlade at its quay, but larger ones lie at Topſham, three miles down the river.—Torrington's trade is conſiderable to Ireland.—Lundy-Iſle, in the Britiſh Channel, though five miles in length, and two in breadth, is ſurrounded with rocks, and of no importance.

III. Dorſetſhire abounds in corn, cattle, ſheep, hemp, flax, and timber; ſo pleaſant a county, as to have been ſometimes ſtiled the Garden of England.—Lyme is a decayed ſea-port.—Bridport is chiefly famous for the great quantities of cordage and match for the navy.—Weymouth and Melcombe-Regis, are two populous ſea-port towns joined together by a bridge over the little river Wey. They carry on a conſiderable foreign commerce, and are under one magiſtracy, though each of them ſends two repreſentatives to Parliament.—Dorcheſter, the county-town, is large, though an inland town; and, for ſix miles round it, the country has been ſaid to feed ſix hundred thouſand ſheep.—Pool is a conſiderable port for ſhipping and commerce, chiefly in the Newfoundland fiſhery. Its oyſters are reckoned the beſt and largeſt in Great Britain.—Blandford, a well-built inland town, ſurpaſſes all England in fine lace, has ſome woollen manufactures, and is famous for good malt.—Shaftſbury, a good town, with four pariſh churches.—Sherborn, a large town, containing thirteen hundred houſes, and upwards of ten thouſand inhabitants. Its modern manufactures are buttons, lace, and haberdaſhery wares, wherein it carries on a good trade.

IV. Somerſetſhire lies on the Briſtol Channel; it abounds in corn, fine cattle, ſheep, lead, copper, lapis calaminaris, woad for dyers, and Briſtol ſtones, reſembling diamonds. Its manufactures are very important, conſiſting of fine cloths, ſerges, and druggets: it is alſo famous for the beſt and largeſt cheeſes, by ſome eſteemed equal to Parmeſan cheeſe, and alſo for cyder.—Its beſt towns are, Bridgwater, a place of conſiderable commerce, and about four thouſand inhabitants.—Taunton, a much larger town, on the river Tone, navigable from thence to Bridgwater: it contains about twenty thouſand inhabitants, many of whom are wealthy, as this place has very conſiderable manufactures of ſerges, druggets, and other woollen ſtuffs.—The ſmall city of Wells has about four thouſand inhabitants: it lies at the foot of Mendip-Hills, famous for their lead mines. Bone lace, and the knitting of ſtockings and caps are its only manufactures.—Froom, or Frome, is a fine and large woollen manufacturing town, of thirteen thouſand inhabitants.

V. The renowned commercial city of Briſtol is ſeparated by the river Avon, between the two counties of Somerſet and Glouceſter; yet, being a county of itſelf, it is no part of either of thoſe counties. A conſiderable part of it lies on the ſouth-ſide of that river, and a ſtill larger part on the north-ſide of it; having a communication by three ſtone bridges, and alſo by a draw-bridge for letting of ſhips up into the harbour, called the Back, or the little river ſtiled the Froom. It is by far the largeſt city in Britain, next after London; containing above thirteen thouſand houſes, and about one hundred thouſand inhabitants; both which are conſtantly increaſing. It is ſaid by ſome to employ two thouſand maritime veſſels of all ſizes, coaſters, as well as ſhips employed in foreign voyages. It has many very important manufactures; its glaſs-bottle and drinking-glaſs manufactories alone occupying fifteen large houſes. Its braſs-wire manufactures are alſo very conſiderable. It contains twenty-one churches, beſide its cathedral, and ſeven or eight meeting-houſes; has a moſt extenſive quay, with dock-yards, &c. for ſhip-building; ſeveral good hoſpitals, in all eighteen in number, and many alms-houſes, and other charitable foundations: ſo that this city, for its prudent regulations, is perhaps out-done by none, and for its vaſt commerce, wealth, and ſhipping, by very few trading cities in all Europe.

Bath is a place of no commerce nor manufactures; wherefore we paſs it over, as well as ſeveral other inconſiderable places in this and other counties.

VI. Wiltſhire is a fertile county, greatly abounding in woollen manufactures, more eſpecially at the towns of Chippenham, Malmſbury, Calne, Devizes, Bradford, Trowbridge, Weſtbury, Marlborough, Warminſter, as alſo at many populous villages.

Saliſbury is a fine and well-built city, having a fine town-houſe, a ſpacious market-place, a noble cathedral, four other churches, and about ten thouſand inhabitants. Here are ſeveral flouriſhing manufactures, particularly fine flannels, long-cloths, called Saliſbury whites, for the Turkey trade; alſo druggets and bone-lace.—Devizes, a neat and flouriſhing town, eminent for its woollen manufactures; has three churches, and ſix thouſand inhabitants.—And Marlborough, another woollen-manufacturing town, of two churches, and near as populous as the Devizes.

VII. Hampſhire, on the Engliſh Channel, abounds in corn, wool, iron, and timber. Ringwood and Fordingbridge are both good woollen manufacturing towns.

1. Wincheſter is a very ancient but decayed city, occaſioned through many diſaſters in old times: it is about a mile and an half in circuit; has a cathedral and ſix pariſh churches, (though formerly it had thirty-two pariſh churches, ſo that there is now much void ground within its walls) a fine college for the education of youth for the univerſity, three charity-ſchools, a palace begun, but never

finiſhed, by King Charles the Second, and going to ruin. Here is an hoſpital and an infirmary, yet here are ſcarcely any manufactures of conſequence; but it has ſtill a conſiderable trade in wool-ſtapling. The city is well frequented by genteel company.

2. Andover is a populous town, abounding in woollen manufactures, particularly fine ſhalloons. It deals largely in malt; and its famous annual fair, named Weyhill, is moſt eminent for hops, ſheep, and cheeſe.

3. Portſmouth is a regularly fortified and moſt famous ſea-port town. It has a very ſpacious harbour, in which a thouſand ſhips may ride at anchor, a moſt extenſive dock-yard, for the conſtruction and repairs of the royal navy, fine rope-yards, vaſt ſtore-houſes, a cooperage, victualling-office, gun-wharf, moſt convenient houſes alſo for the numerous officers and maſter-workmen; all which form a kind of diſtinct town; and the adjoining ſtreets on the place called the Common, form another conſiderable town. Moreover, the town of Goſport, entirely depending on Portſmouth, and lying on the ſouth-ſide of the harbour, forms alſo a conſiderable town: ſo that the whole taken together, may be fairly preſumed to contain at leaſt twenty thouſand people; above one thouſand men being conſtantly kept in the King's pay in and about the harbour.

4. Southampton is a large and beautiful town, and was formerly a very flouriſhing town and ſea-port, containing five pariſhes. Its principal trade at preſent is with the iſles of Jerſey and Guernſey, and in French and Port wines.

The Iſle of Wight is a part of Hampſhire. Its moſt thriving and increaſing ſea-port town is Cowes; where, in time of war, is the rendezvous of merchant-ſhips waiting for convoy.

VIII. Oppoſite to Hampſhire, ſouthward, lie the iſles of Jerſey, Guernſey, Alderney, and Sark, on the coaſt, and in ſight of Normandy, being all that remains to England of that large dutchy.—Dr. Buſching was miſled in ſaying, that thoſe iſlands belong to Hampſhire, they being entirely independent of any county, and are governed by their own ancient laws and cuſtoms, under a chief governor, appointed by his Britannic Majeſty. They live happily under the dominion of England, are well defended by forts, batteries, and ledges of rocks; and in all of them together there are about twenty-four pariſhes, forty thouſand inhabitants, and a few ſmall towns trading in wines, coarſe woollen ſtockings, &c. and have plenty of corn, fiſh, and cyder.

IX. Berkſhire, a delightful and fruitful country.

1. Reading, its county town, on the Thames, is large and wealthy, has three churches, and as many meeting-houſes. It contains about eight thouſand people, and carries on a great trade with London in malt and flour.

2. Abingdon is a good town, eminent for its corn market, and the vaſt quantities of malt with which, by means of the Thames, it ſupplies London.

3. Newbury deals alſo in malt, and has ſtill ſome woollen manufactures, although the bulk of them is long ſince removed further weſt.

4. Windſor is a handſome market-town, on the Thames, plentifully ſupplied with all neceſſaries, but chiefly eminent for its royal palace, foreſt, and park.

X. Surrey is a pleaſant county. Guildford being its reputed county town, ſtanding on the river Wey; which being navigable from it to the Thames, ſerves to convey much ſhip-timber, &c. to London. It has three churches, a meeting-houſe, three charity-ſchools, and other charity foundations, and is a well-built town.—Kingſton upon Thames, is a large market-town:—And Richmond, a delightful royal villa, with a fine park, gardens, &c.—Southwark, though uſually deemed a part of the great contiguity of London, or one of its great ſuburbs, yet is within this county; and its contiguity ſtretches along the Thames from Deptford-bridge to Vauxhall, above ſix miles in length,

length, though very narrow in ſome parts, containing very many opulent people, and many thouſands of induſtrious inhabitants, and various manufacturers.

XI. Suſſex, on the Engliſh Channel, oppoſite to France, is abundant in fine oak timber, and in iron mines, worked with very great benefit.—Chicheſter is its chief town, having a cathedral and five pariſh churches. Its principal trade is in corn for exportation, and in malt and needles. Its harbour is neither good nor large; and has not much foreign trade. It is eſteemed a well-built city.

Lewes is a conſiderably large town, with ſix pariſh churches; and along its river are ſeveral iron-works and founderies for cannon.

XII. Kent, a noble and fertile county.

Canterbury, its ancient capital, is a decayed city, having a fine cathedral, and fourteen pariſh churches. Here are ſtill ſome ſilk manufactures carried on by the poſterity of the Walloons, and of the French refugees. It has ſeveral fine remains of ſtately eccleſiaſtical buildings, with part of its ancient walls: poſſibly there may be near twenty thouſand people ſtill left in it. Its neighbourhood is noted for the beſt brawn, and alſo for great quantities of excellent hops.

Sandwich is a greatly decayed ſea-port, its harbour being much choaked up with ſand, yet it has ſtill ſome coaſting trade; has three churches, three hoſpitals, and five charity-ſchools, a cuſtom-houſe, and a quay; and has ſtill a woollen cloth manufactory.

Deal is within little more than a century paſt become a large town, occaſioned by the ſhipping uſually ſtopping in the Downs; yet it has no harbour, but merely an open beach.

Dover, an ancient and open ſea-port, oppoſite to that of Calais in France. Its harbour is a dry one, and is only capable, at high-water, of receiving middling merchant-ſhips. Of its ancient ſeven pariſh churches two only remain. Here is a cuſtom-houſe, and a victualling-office for the royal navy; yet it is a place of no conſiderable foreign commerce. Its huge caſtle ſtands too high to do much execution againſt ſhipping. Here are held the courts relating to the Cinque Ports, it being the chief of them. In time of peace packet-boats go twice every week to Calais and Oſtend, with the French and Auſtrian mails.

Sheerneſs is a regular fortreſs, having ſome few ſtreets within it. It commands the entrance into the river Medway; and the channel here is ſo ſoft and deep, as to be deemed one of the moſt commodious ſtations upon earth for a royal navy.

Rocheſter city is at beſt but a mean place, having only one church, a town-houſe, a mathematical ſchool, and an alms-houſe: yet if the adjoining town of Chatham, with its dock-yards and vaſt ſtore-houſes for the equipment of the royal navy be included, together with the town of Stroud, at the further end of its fine bridge, thoſe three places, collectively, may very well be deemed to contain twenty thouſand inhabitants.

Chatham is the principal dock-yard for the royal navy, being ſupplied with immenſe quantities of all kinds of naval ſtores, and whatever elſe may be requiſite for the equipment of a royal fleet. It has an ordnance-office, a victualling-office, and an hoſpital; with handſome and convenient houſes for the ſeveral officers. And the entire œconomy here is ſo much improved of late years, that it may be pronounced truly admirable.

Woolwich, on the Thames, has alſo a royal dock-yard for the King's ſhips, and an eminent foundery and vaſt magazine for cannon, mortars, bomb-ſhells, and bullets. Here alſo is a royal artillery academy, with a conſtant artillery-guard, and houſes for the officers, in the place called the Warren.

Deptford, alſo nearer London, formerly called Weſt Greenwich, is become a large and populous town, entirely raiſed by its noble dock-yard for the building and repairing his Majeſty's ſhips. It contains two churches, a meeting-houſe, a college for the Corporation of the Trinity-houſe for pilots and pilotage ; a moſt uſeful inſtitution. This lately-raiſed town contains more houſes and people than are to be found in ſome cities.

Greenwich, late a royal village, now a market-town, nearly adjoining to Deptford, is no otherwiſe eminent than as it contains the moſt beautiful hoſpital upon earth, for the reception of ſuperannuated mariners, who have ſerved in the royal navy; and we wiſh that charity could be fully extended to all maimed and worn-out mariners, throughout the Britiſh dominions, in the merchants ſervice.

Ramſgate, near the Downs, is a ſmall harbour, for the improvement whereof ſuch immenſe ſums have been expended of late years, though hitherto to little effect.

☞ The pier which is now finiſhed, and is a moſt ſtupendous piece of maſonry, does not anſwer the good effects which were expected to be derived from it, on account of the continual influx of ſand which choaks up the harbour.

Maidſtone is a genteel and conſiderable town, ſituated on the Medway, near Rocheſter. It deals very much in hops, makes a great deal of linen thread, and its neighbourhood produces great numbers of the fineſt and largeſt cattle, and greatly abounds in corn, cherries, and other fruits.

XIII. Middleſex is a ſmall but pleaſant and fertile county.

London, its auguſt and matchleſs capital, is not to be deſcribed in leſs than a large folio volume: yet we may ſummarily obſerve, that it contains one hundred and twenty-eight pariſh churches, and near as many Proteſtant diſſenting meeting-houſes and chapels of various denominations, beſide nineteen foreign churches and Popiſh chapels, and three Jews ſynagogues. It contains three colleges, twenty hoſpitals and infirmaries, and near an hundred alms-houſes ; fifteen colleges, called Inns, for lawyers, thirty ſquares, three bridges, ten public priſons, forty-nine halls for livery companies, eight public or free grammar ſchools, and one hundred and thirty-one charity-ſchools, which educate five thouſand and thirty-four poor children. In point of opulence, commerce, populouſneſs, and extent, including Weſtminſter and all its other ſuburbs, we apprehend it may fairly be deemed the firſt city in Chriſtendom, if not on the whole earth: its extent from eaſt to weſt is generally allowed to be above ſeven miles, and its circumference near eighteen ; the number of dwelling-houſes, from a late computation, are ſaid to be about one hundred and thirty-five thouſand, and its inhabitants upwards of one million.

Brentford, on the Thames, is a large market-town: and there are in this county great numbers of large and beautiful villages on every ſide, chiefly filled with country houſes of perſons of quality and diſtinction, merchants, and wealthy citizens, in far greater numbers than the environs of Paris, or of any other metropolis in Europe.

XIV. Eſſex abounds with the fineſt manufacture of bays, and with fine ſaffron, and oyſters.

Colcheſter, its chief town, is an ancient, large, and populous place, with a harbour for ſmall veſſels, ſhips of burden being obliged to load and unload three miles below the town. It has long been eminent for its fine manufactures of bays and ſerges, in which manufactures this ſingle town has been ſaid formerly to have returned one million five hundred thouſand pounds annually; and for excellent barrelled oyſters, ſent to many diſtant parts. It contains eight pariſh churches, five diſſenting meeting-houſes, three hoſpitals, and alms-houſes, two grammar-ſchools, a free-ſchool, two charity-ſchools, a work-houſe and other public edifices ; and in the town and its liberties they reckon no fewer than twenty thouſand people.

Harwich is a ſmall but handſome ſea-port, having an excellent harbour, defended by Landguard Fort on the Suffolk ſide. Here is a dock-yard for ſhip-building, with ſtorehouſes, &c. It is the ſtation for the packet boats between England and Holland; yet there is very little foreign commerce carried on here.

Cogſhall and other ſmall places in this county are alſo famous for their manufactures of bays.

XV. Suffolk produces hemp, and all ſorts of grain and excellent cattle.

Ipſwich, its capital, is an antient decayed town, although it has ſtill twelve pariſh churches, two chapels, a free-ſchool, a harbour and yard for ſhip-building. It alſo retains ſome woollen and linen manufactures.

Sudbury was one of the firſt places where King Edward III. eſtabliſhed his new woollen manufactures; where they are ſtill well kept up. It has three pariſh churches.

Bury, or St. Edmund's Bury, is a moſt pleaſant and regular town, with two large churches, two charity-ſchools, and a Latin ſchool. Its wholeſome air occaſions its being inhabited by many gentry, being by ſome called the Montpelier of England. But its only manufacture is the ſpinning of woollen and worſteds.

Woodbridge is a ſea-port of ſome maritime trade to Holland, Newcaſtle, and London, in timber, cordage, corn, ſalt, hemp, butter, cheeſe, &c.

XVI. Norfolk produces corn, wool, honey, and ſaffron; and its chief manufactures are fine woollen, and half-ſilk ſtuffs, and ſtockings.

1. Norwich is its ancient, large, and populous metropolis, the center of all the manufactures and inland commerce of this county. It contains a cathedral, thirty-four pariſh-churches, and ſeveral diſſenting meeting-houſes, beſide two churches for the Walloons and Flemings, whoſe privileges are inviolably continued to them. The worſted manufacture, for which this city has long been famous, and in which even children earn their bread, was firſt introduced by the Flemings in the reign of Edward III. and afterwards very much improved by the Dutch Walloons, who fled hither from the perſecution of the Duke d'Alva, and were encouraged to ſettle here by Queen Elizabeth: To theſe perſecuted people the inhabitants are principally indebted for the great increaſe of its fine light manufactures; they alſo taught them to make ſays, bays, ſerges, ſhalloons, and many other kinds of ſtuffs, and to weave camblets, crapes, druggets, &c. in which they are now ſaid to return two hundred thouſand pounds annually, and to employ one hundred thouſand perſons, many thouſand packs of wool being ſpun in the neighbouring counties. The inhabitants of Norwich are computed to amount to forty-five thouſand, and its houſes to about eight thouſand. Here are the remains of a palace, and a caſtle, now the county goal, alſo a guild-hall, a ſhire-hall, four hoſpitals, a free grammar ſchool, twelve charity-ſchools, ſix bridges croſs the river Yare, with many good edifices. This city is of great ſervice to Yarmouth, is proper ſea-port, not only for exporting its excellent ſtuffs, &c. manufactures, beyond ſea and to London, but likewiſe by the vaſt quantities of wine, oils, coals, fiſh, and other heavy goods, which ſo populous a manufacturing city as Norwich conſtantly conſumes.

2. Yarmouth is a handſome and populous town, with a good harbour, and one of the fineſt quays in all Europe. Its herring fiſhery is very great, employing upwards of two hundred veſſels therein, about fifty of which are uſually laden to Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Meſſina, Portugal, Spain, and Venice; from hence alſo are exported all kinds of ſtuffs made at Norwich and other parts, to Holland, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Spain, &c. It has alſo lately entered pretty much into the Greenland fiſhery, and ſends out ſeveral ſhips annually; two or three large veſſels are likewiſe fitted out for the Weſt India trade. Yarmouth imports from Norway and the ports of the Baltic, pitch,

tar, timber, hemp, flax, iron, &c. and ever ſince the decline of Ipſwich, has been the principal rendezvous of the Newcaſtle colliers and other ſhipping paſſing between the north and ſouth parts. It alſo deals conſiderably in coals and malt. It was formerly reckoned to have eleven hundred ſhips of its own; but the entrance of the harbour is ſo frequently choaked with ſand after ſtrong eaſterly winds, that all heavy veſſels are obliged to be lightened before they can enter. Here is a fine town-houſe and cuſtom-houſe, and many handſome buildings belonging to merchants.

3. Lynn, or Lynn-Regis, otherwiſe called King's Lynn, is a handſome, wealthy, and populous ſea-port town, with conſiderable ſhipping and commerce, ſituated at the mouth of the river Ouſe; and may contain about two thouſand four hundred houſes, three churches, a chapel, a free-ſchool, a work-houſe, two hoſpitals, two public libraries, two diſſenting meeting-houſes, and an exchange, a cuſtom-houſe, and a quay for ſhipping. There are ſeveral other ſmaller towns in Norfolk, which are chiefly noted for woollen ſtuffs.

Both in Norfolk and Suffolk the ſea has encroached on ſome of their ancient ſea-port fiſhing towns, now much decayed; whilſt many other inland towns are much increaſed by their woollen manufactures.

XVII. Cambridgeſhire, and what is called the Iſle of Ely, though in no other ſenſe an iſle than in its being in a very marſhy country ſurrounded by the Ouſe and other waters, are chiefly known for very good paſturage, corn, and ſaffron.

1. Cambridge, is a large town, in a fertile but damp and flat ſituation. The deſcription of its noble univerſity is not properly within our preſent province. The town has ſeveral pariſh churches and owes its greatneſs entirely to the Univerſity.

2. Wiſbeach, a ſea-port town, has ſome ſhipping and foreign commerce.

As for Ely, though a biſhop's ſee, it is not a city, becauſe not a corporation; but a mere village, in a wateriſh and unhealthy ſituation.

XVIII. Huntingdonſhire is partly marſhy, though with fine paſturage, corn, and cattle. Its fenny ſituation, like part of Cambridgeſhire, affords great plenty of fine freſh-water fiſh and wild-fowl.

Huntingdon, the ſhire town of this ſmall county, on the river Ouſe, was in former times much more conſiderable; but at preſent conſiſts only of one very long ſtreet, with a good market place, a town hall, and two churches, but no conſiderable manufacture, and is merely a thoroughfare town. Neither is there any other town of conſideration in this county, excepting Godmancheſter, very near Huntingdon; which, though larger than Huntingdon, has no other trade than in malt and ſome coarſe woollen goods.

XIX. Bedfordſhire is an inland county, fertile in grain and cattle.

Bedford, its ſhire town, on the Ouſe, is a large, populous, and well-built town, with five churches, a free-ſchool, a charity-ſchool, and ſeveral alms-houſes. It has a great trade in corn ſent down the Ouſe to Holland by the ſhipping of Lynn. Other materials for commerce formerly were womens ſtraw hats. Here is alſo good fuller's earth, ſo neceſſary for the woollen manufacture. There is no other place of conſequence in this county.

XX. Hertfordſhire is in general a fertile inland country, plentiful in corn and cattle.

Hertford, its ſhire town, has two churches, and St. Albans has three churches; yet neither of them, nor any other town in this county, have any conſiderable manufacture. Yet they carry a great deal of corn, meal, and malt up to London, not only by the river Lea from Ware, but likewiſe by waggon carriage from ſeveral other parts of this county.

XXI. Buckinghamſhire has plenty of cattle and ſheep, and has good bone-lace and paper manufactures; the former at Buckingham town, Newport-Pagnel, Marlow, &c. though in other reſpects no very conſiderable towns.

Aileſbury is the largeſt and beſt town in the county, and makes much fine lace; its famous vale produces excellent wool.

XXII. Oxfordſhire is a fine and fertile county.

1. Oxford city is large and well built, on the river Iſis. It is not our province to deſcribe the illuſtrious univerſity, to which the city owes its original and increaſe. Here are ſeveral pariſh churches, beſide the cathedral, three charity-ſchools, an hoſpital, a fine ſhire-hall, &c. Yet, notwithſtanding the happy ſituation of this city in a moſt plentiful country, and on a navigable river, it is in a great meaſure, deſtitute both of commerce and manufactures.

2. Woodſtock, a ſmall market-town, has a manufacture of fine ſteel wares, as alſo for gloves and other leather manufactures.

3. Witney is famous for its fine blanket manufacture.

4. And Bampton for the greateſt trade in ſkins of any part of the kingdom.

XXIII. Glouceſterſhire is a fine and fruitful county, with extenſive ſheep walks on its Cotſwold Hills or Downs, which produce the fineſt of wool. In its plains there is plenty of corn and timber; and it produces vaſt quantities of excellent cheeſe and cyder.

1. Glouceſter city ſtands on the Severn, being a legal ſea-port, though ſo far up that river: and, although the city of Briſtol always has, and probably ever will, intercept and prevent its being conſiderable for naval commerce, it has, however, a cuſtom-houſe, to which ſhips of a moderate burden come up. Here are five pariſh churches, a cathedral, an infirmary, and ſeveral hoſpitals, charity, and other ſchools. It is a clean well-built place; yet its beſt manufactures are pins and bell-founding.

2. Cirenceſter was anciently more flouriſhing than at preſent, yet it ſtill carries on a conſiderable trade in wool, and alſo in many woollen manufactures: and, though no corporation, it has one free-ſchool, two charity-ſchools, and ſome hoſpitals and alms-houſes; being, even at this time, a larger place than are many corporation towns.

3. Tewkſbury is a large and populous town, on the river Severn, having great manufactures of woollen cloth and ſtockings.

4. Newnham, alſo on the Severn, has a great many iron-works and woods near it; and is remarkable for having had the firſt glaſs-houſe of any in England.

5, 6. Painſwick and Stroud are both conſiderable woollen manufacturing towns; and the latter is famous for its ſcarlet dye; owing, as it is ſaid, to the peculiar qualities of the ſmall river of the ſame name. Almoſt all the other leſſer towns in this county have conſiderable manufactures of woollen, and alſo of cheeſe.

XXIV. Monmouthſhire, on the other or weſt ſide of the Severn Frith, or Sea, is mountainous and woody, yet not unfertile,

1. Monmouth, its ſhire town, lies at the confluence of the rivers Mynwy and Wye; and carries on a good trade with Briſtol. It is a moderately large and well-built town.

2. Newport, on the river Uſk, has a harbour and ſome naval trade, being a pretty large town.

3. Pontypool, on the ſame river, is famous for its iron ſlitting mills, its manufacture of iron ſnuff boxes, &c. And more lately for its fine manufacture of tinned iron plates, ſo much improved, and ſo univerſally in uſe for kitchen furniture, and many other purpoſes.

4. Chepſtow, on the Wye, has a harbour, and a good trade in corn and coals.

5. Abergavenny is a large and populous inland town, dealing much in flannels.

XXV. Herefordſhire abounds in corn, excellent wool, timber, cyder, and ſalmon.

1. Hereford city, on the river Wye, is of a moderate ſize, but is neither populous nor beautiful; and is much decayed from what it anciently was; yet has ſtill two pariſh churches beſides its cathedral, one hoſpital and two charity-ſchools. Its manufactures are only a ſmall trade in gloves and other leather wares.

2. Leominſter, on the river Lugg, is a large and well built town. Its wool and wheat are reckoned the beſt in England; and it has ſeveral mills and other machines for its woollen and leather manufactures.

XXVI. Worceſterſhire abounds in corn, cattle, ſheep, fruits, river fiſh, and has ſome ſalt ſprings, and ſalt pits.

1. Worceſter city, ſtanding pleaſantly on the river Severn, contains about two thouſand houſes, with a cathedral and ſeveral pariſh churches, three grammar-ſchools, ſix charity-ſchools, ſeven alms-houſes, an hoſpital, and a guildhall, and may contain about or near twenty thouſand inhabitants. It has divers manufactures of fine cloths and gloves. Here is a cuſtom-houſe and quay, to which many veſſels of ſmall burden come up.

2. Droitwich has four pariſh churches, and is famous for its white ſalt pits.

3. Bewdley is a conſiderable town on the Severn, dealing largely in corn, iron wares, ſalt, hops, leather, Mancheſter goods, &c. carried down the Severn to Glouceſter and other parts.

4. Kidderminſter is a populous town, having a conſiderable trade in woollen cloths and ſtuffs.

5. Stourbridge, on the river Stour, is a very thriving town, having manufactures of woollen cloth, iron, and glaſs; and aiſo a peculiar kind of clay or earth for making the beſt crucibles. Here is a well-endowed grammar ſchool, and library, and yet has but one pariſh church.

XXII. Warwickſhire is a fine inland county.

1. Warwick, its county town, on the Avon, is a neat and pretty place, having two churches, three free ſchools, an hoſpital for decayed gentlemen, and a caſtle the ſeat of the Earl Brook and Warwick.

Coventry, a large and populous city, having three churches, ſeveral meeting houſes, a free ſchool, and an hoſpital. It had formerly a conſiderable manufacture of woollen cloth; but at preſent tammies and ribbons are its chief produce.

3. Birmingham is the largeſt town in this county, moſt populous and moſt thriving, and yet is not a corporation. It is not only all over England, but it may be ſaid likewiſe all over Europe, that it is eminent for its almoſt endleſs variety of excellent and ingenious hardware manufactures; of vaſt variety of ſnuff and tobacco boxes, buttons, ſhoe buckles, &c. with many other ſorts of ſteel and braſs wares. For which end it is ſupplied with very cheap coals, and all other neceſſaries in great plenty. It has three fine churches, ſeveral diſſenting meeting houſes; and, having lately had many new ſtreets added to it, it may probably contain about fifty thouſand inhabitants; and at preſent much more likely to increaſe than to diminiſh.

XXVIII. Northamptonſhire is a very populous inland county, extremely fruitful.

Northampton town is a pleaſant place, having four pariſh churches, two diſſenting meeting-houſes, two hoſpitals, an infirmary, and a charity ſchool: yet it has no conſiderable manufacture, being only noted for ſhoes, of which many are exported, and has alſo a ſtocking manufacture, and very good horſes; where is the greateſt horſe market in England. Yet Kettering and other neighbouring

bouring towns, though ſmaller, carry on a more conſiderable trade in corn, lace, and ſhalloons, and other light woollen goods.

The city of Peterborough, though not large, drives a conſiderable trade in corn, malt, and ſeveral ſorts of woollen manufactures.

XXIX. Rutlandſhire is the very ſmalleſt county in England, remarkably abounding in corn, black cattle, and ſheep. It has only two ſmall towns, Oakham and Uppingham, places of little conſideration.

XXX. Leiceſterſhire is very fertile in corn, cattle, and ſheep with fine long wool.

Leiceſter, its ſhire town, is conſiderably large and populous, having at preſent three pariſh churches, (it had once thirty-two pariſh churches about the time of the Norman conqueſt; but ſubſequent misfortunes have ſo greatly reduced their number) three hoſpitals, and a charity-ſchool. It carries on a great trade in ſtockings, corn, and cattle. The ſtocking frame trade having in ſome years yielded ſixty thouſand pounds per annum.

XXXI. Lincolnſhire, a large county, with a very various ſoil.

1. Lincoln city, on the river Witham, is an old and decayed place, wherein, ſo lately as the reign of King Edward VI. there were ſaid to be fifty-two pariſh churches, which were afterwards reduced to eighteen, and ſince to its preſent number of thirteen mean churches. It has a ſtately cathedral and four charity-ſchools, though but little trade or manufactures of any ſort.

2. Stamford, on the Welland, is a well built and populous town. Its principal trade is in malt, free ſtone, and pit coal.

3. Grantham is a very handſome market town.

4. Boſton, a ſea port town, at the mouth of the Witham, is well built; and has ſome foreign trade in Portugal wines, &c.

XXXII. Nottinghamſhire is a fine county, and has in it many woods, foreſts, and coal pits.

1. Nottingham, ſituated on a rock near the river Trent, is one of the fineſt and pleaſanteſt towns of the whole kingdom. It is wealthy and populous, has three pariſh churches and ſeveral meeting-houſes. Its principal manufactures are ſtockings, for which it is very famous; it has good earthen ware; and is alſo very famous for its excellent malt and ale.

2. Newark, on the Trent, is a wealthy town, and deals much in corn, cattle, and wool.

XXXIII. Derbyſhire, though, like moſt other counties, it has a various ſoil, has however plenty of corn and wood, with many mines of iron, lead, coal, and marble.

Derby, its ſhire town, lies on the Derwent, is well built and populous. It is a ſtaple for wool, and is remarkable for good malt and fine ale, the latter being exported in great quantities. Here alſo is the moſt famous and ſurpriſingly extenſive machine (late Sir Thomas Lombe's) for throwing or twiſting of ſilk, of a moſt curious conſtruction, and a national benefit; and a manufacture of beautiful porcelain. There is no other place eminent for manufactures or trade in this county.

XXXIV. Staffordſhire is in ſome parts barren, mountainous, and woody; in other parts it has good corn and paſture; and particularly abounds in mines of iron and coal.

1. Stafford, its county town, has two churches, and ſome good linen manufactures; but in other reſpects is no way eminent.

2. Litchfield, on the Trent, is a city, with a cathedral and three pariſh churches. It lies low, and its greateſt ornaments are the edifices in what is called the Cloſe, viz. the epiſcopal palace, prebendal houſes, &c. But here are no manufactures nor commerce worthy of notice.

3. But Wolverhampton is a wealthy and populous town, filled with manufactures of the fineſt lockſmiths work in England, and other kinds of hardware.

XXXV. Shropſhire, or the county of Salop, is a pleaſant and fertile country, abounding in corn, coals, iron, and wood.

1. Shrewſbury, or Salop, is a large, extremely pleaſant, and well built town, with five pariſh churches, and ſeveral diſſenting meeting houſes; it is pleaſantly almoſt ſurrounded by the river Severn, over which it has two ſtone bridges. It has large manufactures of flannel, called here Welch cottons, and alſo of cloth; and is famous for its cakes and brawn: and is ſaid to have more gentry inhabiting it than any other country town in England.

2. Bridgnorth is beautifully ſituated on the Severn, and is a tolerably large and handſome town, with two churches: it has manufactures of muſkets and other iron wares, as well as of woollen cloth, ſtockings, and leather.

XXXVI. Cheſhire is moſtly a level country, abounding in corn and cattle of all kinds, and in ſalt works.

1. Cheſter city on the river Dee, has walls entirely round it, a cathedral, and ten pariſh churches; and carries on a very conſiderable trade with Ireland. This city is large and populous, poſſibly containing near upon twenty thouſand people. It is computed annually to vend thirty thouſand tons weight of its excellent cheeſe, each conſiſting of twenty hundred weight.

Nantwich and Middlewich are two ſalt work towns.

XXXVII. Yorkſhire, by far the largeſt county in England, is, in general, extremely fertile and plentiful in all the neceſſaries of life. Out of its forty-nine towns, the following are the principal, viz.

1. York city ſtands on the river Ouſe, upon which ſhips of ſeventy tons burden ſail up almoſt to the bridge. York is very much decayed, and fallen from its ancient ſplendor and magnitude. It has ſtill ſeventeen pariſh churches, though twenty-eight nominal pariſhes, and a moſt noble gothic cathedral. It ſtands on more ground than the city of Briſtol; although, in point of trade, wealth, and number of inhabitants, which do not exceed twenty thouſand, it be greatly inferior to it; yet it is a pleaſant and noble city, with many fine public and private edifices. It has ſtill in it a cotton manufacture, and ſome trade by water carriage on the Ouſe.

2. Halifax, upon the river Calder, is a very populous and wealthy town, eminent for its extenſive woollen manufactures, though we have no where met with a particular or late account of its magnitude, any further than that, beſide its ancient mother church, it has in its vaſtly large pariſh, twelve chapels, two of which (ſays the Theſaurus Geographicus, publiſhed in the year 1695) are parochial, which we do not well underſtand. It may probably contain about twenty thouſand inhabitants.

3. Leeds is a very populous, large, and wealthy town, having three churches, and ſeveral diſſenting meeting houſes. It is moſt famous for its immenſe woollen cloth fair, where, ſay ſome, twenty thouſand pounds worth of cloth is often ſold in an hour's time, and much of it ſhipped off at Hull for foreign parts, its river being navigable by boats to Wakefield, York, and Hull.

4. Wakefield, from its woollen manufactures is of late ſo much increaſed, that it is computed to be more populous than York.

5. Sheffield is a very large town, eminently famous, ever ſince King Edward the Third's reign, for its cutlery ware; in which it is ſaid to employ forty thouſand people, though not all living within the town.

6. Hull, on a river of its name, falling there into the Humber, is a fine old fortified town, with a conſtant garriſon in its citadel.

This flouriſhing place, ſo happily ſituated, enjoys a very large foreign commerce, and a numerous ſhipping, more eſpecially employed to the Baltic, and to the northern kingdoms, for naval ſtores, &c. and alſo in the fiſheries to Iceland and Greenland: and, although it has but two churches, beſide ſeveral meeting houſes, yet it is extremely populous. It has a cuſtom houſe, an exchange, a trinity-houſe for pilotage, a ſtore-houſe for lead, a granary for corn, ſeveral hoſpitals and alms-houſes, a free-ſchool and charity-ſchool. It has alſo a large inland trade with the neighbouring counties, by means of the ſeveral rivers at and near it. Hull alſo deals largely in corn, has much ſail cloth manufactured at its Trinity houſe, and lead. Its cuſtoms, by its foreign trade, are reputed to amount to from thirty to forty thouſand pounds. It may probably contain twenty thouſand inhabitants.

7. Burlington, or Bridlington, is a large and wealthy ſea port town, having a good trade, and a ſafe harbour, near the famous promontory called Flamborough Head.

8. Richmond is a large and populous inland town, with walls, and a caſtle: it has two churches; and it deals largely in the lighter woollen manufactures.

9. Scarborough is a good ſea port town, with a ſafe harbour and a good trade. It is employed ſo much in the fiſhing for cod, herrings, &c, as to be able, not only to ſupply the neighbouring countries, but alſo to ſend conſiderable quantities beyond ſea. It likewiſe deals largely in the coal trade. Its harbour, and that of Yarmouth, are deemed the two beſt on this ſide of England, for ſhelter in caſe of a ſtorm.

10. Whitby is a good town, and has an excellent harbour on the river Eſk, where are built a great many of the beſt ſhips for the coal trade. Here are alum works, and a cuſtom houſe: and there are upwards of two hundred ſhips belonging to this thriving town.

Theſe ten inſtances may ſuffice; yet doubtleſs there are ſeveral of the other leſſer towns of this county, which may have ſome conſiderable woollen, iron, &c. manufactures, needleſs here to be ſpecified.

XXXVIII. In the county or biſhopric of Durham, the principal commodities or productions are, iron, lead, and coals, and ſome linen manufactures at Darlington.

1. The city of Durham is an inland city, on the river Wear, has a cathedral and ſix pariſh churches; over that river Durham has two noble ſtone bridges; yet it is not eminent either for manufactures or for commerce.

2. Stockton, leſs than an hundred years ago, had ſcarcely any other houſes but of clay and thatch, but is now well built, and carries on a great trade in lead and butter.

XXXIX. Northumberland yields excellent mines of coals and lead.

1. Newcaſtle, on the north ſide of the river Tyne, is its ſtately and opulent capital, over which river there is a good ſtone bridge. This town is a country within itſelf, is extremely populous, having ſeven churches, beſide chapels and meeting houſes; has ſeveral charity ſchools, and a large hoſpital. The river Tyne is its extenſive and ſafe harbour; from whence almoſt incredible quantities of coals are conſtantly ſhipped off for London, and other parts of England, as well as to foreign parts. It is, moreover, in other reſpects, a place of very conſiderable foreign commerce; has ſeveral glaſs houſes, a conſiderable manufacture of hardware, and the beſt grindſtones in all Europe. Newcaſtle builds many ſhips for the coal trade. Seven miles down the river, the large village of North Shields is the noted ſtation for the coal ſhips, where they take in their ladings from the numerous lighters called keels, conſtantly going thither for that end, navigated by above four thouſand keelmen. Here is a fine exchange, a cuſtom-houſe, manſion-houſe for the Mayor, a ſurgeon's hall, &c. and ſeveral other public and private edifices. Merchant ſhips of conſiderable burden come up

to its fine quay, but moſt of them remain at Shields, ready to go out to ſea; where, at the mouth of the Tyne, there is a fort well planted with cannon, and a garriſon. Newcaſtle, with Shields, is by many thought to contain above fifty thouſand people.

2. Berwick, at the mouth and on the north or Scotch ſide of the river Tweed, is a walled town, with a ſtrong caſtle and garriſon, has two churches. Here is great plenty of proviſions, vaſt quantities of ſalmon pickled for the London market: here is a manufacture of worſted ſtockings, and an exchange for merchants: yet ſhips of large burden cannot enter the harbour, by reaſon of a bar at the mouth of it.

XL. Lancaſhire is in ſome parts fruitful, in other parts marſhy, and in ſome other parts ſtony and barren. Its chief natural productions are corn, coals, and excellent hemp.

1. Lancaſter, its county town, is a ſea port, though capable only of ſhips of about ſeventy tons burden: yet, with ſuch ſhips, it carries on a thriving trade with America, in manufactures of woollen, hardware, &c. It has a cuſtom houſe and caſtle.

2. Preſton, a very handſome and thriving town.

3. Mancheſter, on the Irwell, is a large, beautiful, and extremely populous place: and though, in point of government, it is really but a village, as having no higher magiſtrate than a conſtable; yet, in magnitude, elegant buildings, and number of inhabitants, it ſurpaſſes all the towns, and even all the cities of England, three only excepted. It is eminently famous for the ſkill and induſtry of its people, in many kinds of manufactures of cotton, dimities, tickings, &c. and is by ſome ſaid to contain upwards of forty thouſand, and ſome others think fifty thouſand people. Yet, beſide ſeveral meeting houſes, and ſome private Popiſh maſs houſes, it has but one large collegiate church, and one pariſh church. It has a college, an hoſpital, a library, a free ſchool, and ſeveral charity ſchools.

4. Warrington is a populous market town, and is eminent for its trade in linen and malt.

5. Liverpool is a large and fine ſea port town, at the mouth of the river Merſee, with a convenient harbour, and a fine wet dock. It has ſo vaſt a foreign or naval commerce, more particularly in the Guinea and Weſt India trade, as even to vie with, and in ſome branches to exceed the city of Briſtol itſelf. It had but three pariſh churches till the year 1762, when two more were added by act of Parliament: here are alſo ſeveral meeting-houſes; a cuſtom-houſe, an exchange, ſundry alms-houſes, and a work-houſe. Its harbour is defended on the ſouth ſide by a caſtle, and on the weſt ſide by a tower, and has an act of Parliament for making further improvements in it. It may have about four hundred ſhips and veſſels, great and ſmall, belonging to it, including coaſting as well as foreign trade; is thought to contain about thirty thouſand inhabitants; and both it and Mancheſter are conſtantly increaſing, not only in ſingle houſes, but even in entire new ſtreets.

XLI. Weſtmoreland lies, as its name imports, moſtly in a marſhy or mooriſh country, and other parts of it are mountainous.

1. Appleby, eſteemed the county town, is a decayed place, with two churches: it is waſhed by the river Eden, and has very little of any thing like trade or manufactures.

2. Kendal is a much more conſiderable place in point of trade, buildings, and the number and wealth of its inhabitants, and is alſo greatly enriched by its woollen cloth manufactures, known for four centuries paſt by the name of Kendal cloths, and by its druggets, ſtockings, and hats, although it has but a ſmall harbour on the river Can. It has but one pariſh church, but it is ſaid to have no leſs than twelve chapels, and may probably have near twenty thouſand inhabitants.

XLII. Cumberland, on the Iriſh Sea, abounds in pit coal, copper, and lead.

1. Carliſle is a ſmall walled city, on the river Eden; has a cathedral, and two pariſh churches. It has a ſmall manufacture of fuſtians; but, although it be a ſea port, it has no foreign commerce.

2. Penrith, uſually pronounced Perith, is a well built and populous inland trading town, eminent for its tanners, and for corn and cattle.

3. Keſwick, a ſmall market town, is no otherwiſe remarkable than for its black lead mine, by ſome, through miſtake, ſaid to be the only one of the kind in all Europe.

WALES.

In the principality of Wales are twelve counties, viz. ſix in South Wales, and the ſame number in North Wales. The whole country is ſo vaſtly improved ſince its complete union with England, as to have quite another appearance at preſent than it had two hundred years ago. Its lands are well cultivated, its towns well built and inhabited; and, although it be moſtly mountainous, it nevertheleſs affords plenty of all the neceſſaries of life, either in reſpect to corn or cattle: it has alſo plenty of wood, coals, and turf for fewel, and for working its mines. The whole principality probably containing three hundred thouſand people.

In SOUTH WALES, we ſhall begin with

I. Pembrokeſhire is in general very fertile: it has a remarkable kind of fuel named Culm, being the duſt of pit coal made up into balls, affording a bright, laſting, and pleaſant fire, much uſed.

1. The town of Pembroke ſtands on one of the many creeks of Milford-haven, one of the largeſt and ſafeſt havens in all Europe. This town of Pembroke has two churches, a cuſtom-houſe, and a conſiderable naval commerce.

2. Tenby, or Tenbigh, has a good herring fiſhery, and exports large quantities of coals.

3. Haverford-weſt is a rich and populous ſea-port town, with a conſiderable trade: it has four churches, a cuſtom-houſe, and commodious quay for ſhipping.

4. St. David's is a ſmall city, ſo called as being a Biſhop's ſee and a corporation, on the ſea coaſt; but being in a barren country, it is much decayed.

II. Caermarthenſhire is one of the moſt fruitful counties of Wales, with plenty of corn, cattle, ſalmon, wood, pit coal, and abundance of lead.

Caermarthen is the ſhire town, and the only good one in the county. It ſtands on the river Towy, which brings ſhips up to it: it is a thriving, well built, polite, and populous place, with a good trade, ſo as it may be juſtly reputed the capital of South Wales, it being the chief reſort of the gentry of thoſe parts.

III. Glamorganſhire is partly mountainous, and in ſome parts very fruitful.

1. Swanſey is a neat ſea-port town, with a good harbour, and carries a great trade in coals and culm, having alſo ſome copper works.

2. Caerdiff, a handſome, populous, and trading ſea-port.

3. Landaff, though a Biſhop's ſee, is but a mere village, having no corporation.

IV. Brecknockſhire has high mountains, and deep vallies, producing corn, cattle, and fiſh.

Brecknock town has three churches, and ſome trade in woollen cloth.

V. Cardiganſhire, on the Iriſh channel, produces grain, cattle, fiſh, ſilver, lead, and copper.

1. Cardigan is rather a large and well built town; has a very briſk trade with Ireland from its river Tivy. And here are ſaid to be the fineſt ſalmon in all England.

2. Aberyſtwith is a town of ſome trade, and is populous.

VI. Radnorſhire is one of the leaſt fertile of any in this principality.

1. Radnor is but a mean place; but,

2. Preſteing is a neat town, dealing much in corn and malt; and,

3. Knighton in much the ſame; as alſo in cattle, hops, &c.

In North Wales,

VII. Montgomeryſhire, an inland county, and very mountainous.

1. Montgomery is a place of no eminence; but,

2. Welchpool is a pretty little town, and has a conſiderable manufacture of flannels.

VIII. Merionethſhire, on the Iriſh ſea, though almoſt wholly mountainous, has ſome cotton manufactures, with infinite numbers of ſheep on its mountains; but not one town of any note, though Harlech caſtle is called its ſhire town.

IX. Flintſhire is a ſmall county, bordering on Cheſhire; and, though mountainous, produces cattle, pit coal, lead, and mill ſtones; yet has no town of any account, although St. Aſaph be the ſee of a Biſhop, but is no corporation.

X. Denbighſhire is a large and fertile valley.

1. Denbigh is pretty large and populous, and much inhabited by tanners and glovers.

2. Wrexham is the largeſt town in all North Wales, being populous and well built; and has a great trade in flannels.

XI. Caernarvonſhire has many very high mountains, and is very rocky. Yet, in the maritime parts, it is tolerably fertile and well inhabited.

1. Caernarvon is ſituated on the ſtreight of the ſea which divides this ſhire from the iſle of Angleſea. It is ſmall, but well built.

2. Bangor, an ancient city on the ſame ſtreight of the ſea, anciently of great account, but now a ſmall town; all its dignity at preſent being derived from its being a Biſhop's ſee, and as ſuch, jointly with its being a corporation, aſſumes the appellation of a city.

3. Aberconway, though ſo lately founded as the reign of King Edward II. is grown up into a handſome town.

XII. Angleſey iſland and county is divided from the main land by the above-named narrow ſtreight of the ſea.

Beaumaris, its ſhire town, has a good harbour for ſhips; and, by its trade, is become a pretty wealthy place.

The little iſle of Holy-head is divided from Angleſey by a ſmall ſtreight, and is only remarkable for being the uſual ſtation of the packet boats to and from Ireland.

The Isle of Man, lying over againſt Lancaſhire, in the Iriſh ſea, though properly of no county of England, is nevertheleſs ſubject, as to its *dominium directum*, to the crown and kingdom of Great Britain, as its Lord Paramount; but, with reſpect to its immediate property and revenue, or its *dominium utile*, it belongs to the Duke of Athol. Its ſoil is fertile in grain and cattle of all ſorts: their products for exportation conſiſt of wool, hides, and tallow, which they exchange with foreign ſhipping for commodities they may have occaſion for from other parts. Its metropolis, properly ſpeaking, as having a caſtle and garriſon, is Caſtletown; but Douglas is the beſt town and harbour, as being moſt frequented by ſhipping. After the cloſe of the laſt war, when it was judged highly neceſſary to take every method poſſible for the improvement of the public revenue, the removing the inconveniencies, ſo long experienced from the clandeſtine commerce carried on from this iſland, brought on a treaty between the Lords of the Treaſury, and the Duke and Ducheſs of Athol as proprietors; which being concluded, an act of Parliament paſſed for confirming it; whereby, in conſideration of the ſum of ſeventy thouſand pounds, an abſolute ſurrender was made to his Majeſty of the Iſle, Caſtle, and Pele of Man, and all the iſlands, lordſhips, royalties, liberties, and ſea-ports appertaining to the ſame. Reſerving, however, to the proprietors, the patronage of the biſhopric, of all the eccleſiaſtical preferments, and alſo all their rights to the landed property in that iſland with every thing appertaining thereto.

SCOTLAND.

Its natural productions are corn and pulſe of all kinds, horned cattle, ſmall hardy horſes, ſheep, hogs, wool, flax, iron, lead, marble, peltry, ſlate, and hemp.

It is uſually divided into thirty-one ſhires and two ſtewartries, and may contain one million five hundred thouſand people, viz.

I. Berwickſhire, (or, in the old ſtile, the Merſe) on the German ocean, next to Northumberland, is fertile in corn, and paſturage. Its beſt towns are,

1. Dunſe, a place of the beſt trade of this county.

2. Kelſo, a pretty market town on the Tweed, in a pleaſant part of the country; and,

3. Lauder, a royal burg, *i. e.* a corporation immediately depending ſolely on the crown, without any ſort of ſubjection or dependence on any ſubject, with but few manufactures.

The reader needs ſcarcely to be told, that the town of Berwick upon Tweed was long ſince reduced to the ſubjection of England, as a ſeparate dominion.

Lothian, divided into Eaſt and Mid-Lothian, the moſt fertile, pleaſant, and moſt populous part of Scotland.

II. Eaſt Lothian contains,

1. Dunbar, a well built royal burgh, and a well known ſea port, with a good harbour, and ſome conſiderable naval commerce.

2. Haddington, a royal burgh, with ſome inland trade in corn, &c.

3. Preſton-Pans, Cockenny, and Seton, towns chiefly eminent for their ſalt works.

III. Mid-Lothian contains,

1. Muſcleburg, a royal burgh and ſea port, having ſome proſperous woollen manufactures.

2. Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland. It is large, well built, and populous, having eleven large pariſh churches, and about as many epiſcopal meeting houſes; an eminent univerſity, ſeveral large and well endowed hoſpitals, a ſtately royal infirmary, an exchange, a royal college of phyſicians, with a phyſic garden; a noble and ſtrong caſtle, with a garriſon, a fine royal palace, and many handſome palaces of the nobility. Parallel to the city of Edinburgh, on the north, the nobility, gentry, and others, have built a new town, upon a plan which does honour to the preſent age. The ſtreets and ſquares are laid out with the utmoſt regularity; the houſes are principally of ſtone, and the fronts of many ſuperbly finiſhed in all the beauties of architecture. The number of its inhabitants has been eſtimated at ſixty thouſand; but, from the addition of the New Town, &c. and the conſequent increaſe in population, it may reaſonably be inferred, that they are now much more conſiderable. The ſpacious town and port of Leith, contains two pariſh churches, with a fine quay and pier running a great way into the ſea, is the proper port of Edinburgh; which has no inconſiderable foreign, and a large coaſting trade. Edinburgh is, moreover, the ſeat of government, of the chief courts of law, and boards of revenue; and as it has many perſons of quality and figure always reſiding in it, with ſuch qualifications it is, and always will be, deemed a place of polite reſort, and moſt agreeable converſation; even notwithſtanding the objections of certain inconveniencies attending ſuch perſons as may be neceſſarily obliged to live in the central and cloſer parts of ſo populous a place.--Vide Botero's fine diſtinction between a large and a great city, under the year 1594, of this work.

IV. Linlithgowſhire, otherwiſe called Weſt Lothian, contains,

Borrowſtonneſs, on the river Forth, is a port of good commerce and ſhipping; and, next to Leith, carries on the greateſt trade to Holland and France of any in Scotland.

2. Linlithgow,

2. Linlithgow, a well built town, with a conſiderable linen manufacture, and a ruinous royal palace.

V. The ſhire of Tweedale has good paſturage, and great plenty of ſheep, whoſe wool is in good eſteem: yet Peebles, on the Tweed, though its ſhire town, is but an inconſiderable place.

VI. Selkrig, or Selkirk-ſhire and town has nothing in it very remarkable.

VII. Teviotdale, or Roxburghſhire.

Its beſt town is Jedburgh, a royal burgh, having ſome good woollen manufactures.

VIII. Dumfries ſhire is a good country.

Dumfries, its county town, is a large improving ſea-port, on the Iriſh Sea; has two pariſh churches, a conſiderable number of good ſhips, with a proportionable ſhare of foreign commerce, and about ſix thouſand inhabitants.

IX. Kirkcudbright ſtewartry is a large and fertile country.

Kirkcudbright, its chief town, has a good harbour at the mouth of the river Dee, and lies very commodious for commerce.

X. Wigton-ſhire contains,

1. Wigton, its ſhire-town, which, though it has a harbour, has little commerce. Here alſo is,

2. Whithern, a royal burgh.

3. Port-Patrick, a ſmall town, with a tolerable harbour, being the uſual port of paſſage to Belfaſt, and other parts of the north of Ireland.

Theſe two counties are comprehended in the old country of Galloway; which large country gives the title of earl to one of the branches of the noble family of Stewart; although Dr. Buſching's map-maker has not ſo much as found a place for its ſaid ancient name on his map of Scotland.

XI. The ſhire of Air has its ſhire-town of the ſame name, which carries on a conſiderable trade, with ſome ſhipping.

2. Irwin is a ſmall ſea-port, with ſome ſhips and commerce.

XII. Renfrewſhire is pleaſant, rich, and populous; has

1. Greenock, a well-built ſea-port, with a good ſhare of foreign trade, and the largeſt herring-fiſhery of any of the weſt coaſt of Scotland.

2. Paiſley, a large inland town, of late years become eminent for its fine linen and long-lawn manufactures.

3. Renfrew is ſmall, and not conſiderable.

XIII. The ſhire of Lanerk or Clydeſdale, a fine and wealthy country, has

1. Lanerk, its ſhire-town, ſtanding on the fine river Clyde.

2. Hamilton, a ſmall, but well-built and pleaſant town, on the Clyde, having a fine linen manufacture, and a noble palace of the Dukes of Hamilton near it.

3. Glaſgow is a large and beautifully built city, ſituated in a plain along the Clyde, in a very fertile country. It is a city of very conſiderable foreign as well as domeſtic commerce, having many good ſhips trading to America, and many other countries. It has many excellent manufactures of various kinds: it has ſeven churches. Its proper harbour lies ſome miles lower down the river, at a place called New Port-Glaſgow, yet ſmaller veſſels can come up to the city, which has a moſt thriving univerſity; and the city may poſſibly contain thirty thouſand inhabitants.

XIV. Stirling-ſhire is a fine fertile country, on and near the river Forth.

Stirling, its capital town, ſtands on a fine eminence, having a ſtone-bridge acroſs the Forth. It is a large and well-built town, with a ſtrong royal caſtle. Ships of ſmall burthen come up with the tide to its bridge. Stirling has very conſiderable manufactures of ſhalloons and ſerges.

XV. The ſmall ſhire of Clackmannan is a good and fertile country, and abounds in pit-coal beyond any other part. Its towns are,

1. Alloa, or Alloway, a ſmall town, with a good harbour on the Forth, and ſome commerce.

2. Culroſs, a royal burgh, on the Frith of Forth, with a tolerable coaſting trade.

XVI. Fife-ſhire, on the Frith of Forth, contains much coal, and a conſiderable number of ſmall towns along the ſea-coaſt, with ſhipping belonging, more or leſs, to each of them.

1. Burnt-iſland is a royal burgh, having a fine harbour, and a conſiderable linen manufacture.

2. Kirkaldy is the moſt populous and thriving burgh on all the coaſt of Fife, having a conſiderable foreign commerce, and much ſhipping.

3. St. Andrew's, its ſhire-town, is much declined from its ancient ſplendour, though it ſtill has an univerſity, and a ſmall harbour, but without ſhipping.

XVII. The little ſhire of Kinroſs has in it only the ſmall town of the ſame name, but of little ſignificance.

XVIII. Dunbarton-ſhire, or Lenox-ſhire, the ancient appellation of it, is properly very highland and mountainous; yet has good paſturage, and ſome fertile ſpots for tillage.

Dunbarton town ſtands on a bay of the ſea, formed by the rivers Clyde and Leven; it had once a conſiderable trade, but is now ſo much decayed, as to be principally eminent only by its very ſtrong royal caſtle, on a high rock, having a ſmall garriſon.

XIX. The ſhire of Bute conſiſts only of the iſlands of Bute and Arran, lying in the Frith of Clyde. On the former ſtands the royal burgh of Rothſay. At both theſe iſlands there is a great herring-fiſhery, and their rivers abound with ſalmon and other fiſh.

XX. Argyle-ſhire, a large highland or mountainous country, abounding in cattle and ſheep.

1. Inverary, its ſhire-town, is a royal burgh; as is alſo

2. Campbelton, with a good harbour, and ſome ſhipping; eſpecially well ſituated for, and employed in the herring and Greenland fiſheries.

The iſlands of Ilay and Jura, in this ſame county, yield plenty of corn and cattle, lead-mines, and lime-ſtones; but there are no towns worth noting.

Along the weſt coaſt there are abundance of iſles, and ſome of conſiderable compaſs; which, for want of due plantation, cultivation, and improvement, were hitherto no otherwiſe remarkable than on account of their moſt convenient ſituation for the fiſheries for herring, cod, &c. which there ſo much abound; though now, from the ſpirited exertions of a few patriotic gentlemen, in calling the attention of Parliament to an object of ſo much national conſequence, they are likely to become of much more ſubſtantial benefit to the public than has been hitherto imagined: this coaſt ſeeming to reſemble a rich mine of inexhauſtible wealth, till now totally neglected and unexplored, and left to the improvement and inveſtigation of this and ſucceeding ages. They are well known by the general name of the Hebrides or Weſtern Iſles; but they have, as yet, no towns worth particular notice.

XXI. Perth-ſhire is a large county, with various ſoil, though it has plenty of paſture, corn, cattle, ſheep, flax, &c.

1. Perth, its ſhire-town, pleaſantly ſeated on the fine and large river Tay; it has ſome foreign commerce to Norway, the Baltic, and other parts, and a very improving linen manufacture.

2. Dunkeld, farther up the Tay; it is the beſt market-town in the Highlands for linen, wool, &c.

3. Dumblain, a little pleaſant market-town.

4. Abernethy, a ſmall town, ſaid to have been the uſual reſidence of the Pictiſh Kings.

XXII. The ſhire of Forfar, or Angus, its more ancient appellation, is a fertile county in corn, cattle, fruits, &c. and many linen manufactures.

Forfar is but an inconſiderable place; but,

1. Dundee, its proper capital, is a large and populous town, near the mouth of the river Tay: it is a town of conſiderable trade, exporting much linen, grain, herrings, peltry, &c. to ſundry foreign parts: it has three churches, and may contain about ten thouſand inhabitants.

2. Montroſe, a pretty little town, with a fine harbour, good ſhipping, and a conſiderable foreign commerce.

3. Aberbrothick is a ſea-port and royal burgh, though it has but little maritime commerce.

4. Brechin, a ſmall inland royal burgh, of inconſiderable trade.

XXIII. Kincardine-ſhire, or Merns, its ancient name, has but an indifferent ſoil, without any town of conſiderable note, and only along its coaſt a number of ſmall ſea-ports, with ſome coaſting and fiſhing veſſels, and ſome light and cheap woollen manufactures, of which they export ſome to Holland in their ſaid veſſels.

XXIV. Aberdeen-ſhire comprehends the anciently named countries of Marr, Buchan, and Garioch, ſtill known by thoſe ancient appellations amongſt the natives. It is a large county, and produces plenty of grain, cattle, ſheep, wool, peltry, &c. It is extremely well ſupplied with the beſt of ſea-fiſh on its own coaſt, whereof a great deal is exported to France and Italy; and its rivers running into the German ocean, are replete with an exuberance of ſalmon, trout, &c. This country has much linen, and ſlight woollen manufactures, and is moſt famous for its very fine knit-ſtockings.

1. New Aberdeen, the ſhire-town, at the mouth of the river Dee, is a large well-built city, and has a good dry or tide harbour. In it are three churches, and ſeveral Epiſcopal meeting-houſes, a conſiderable degree of foreign commerce, and much ſhipping; a well frequented univerſity, and above twelve thouſand inhabitants.

2. Old Aberdeen, near a mile diſtant, though almoſt joined to the other by means of a long village depending on neither of them; is a moderately large market-town, but has no haven. In each of theſe two places there is a well endowed college, both together being termed the Univerſity of Aberdeen, although quite independent on each other. It is now, however, in agitation to unite them.

3. 4. Kintore and Inverurie are two ſmall inland royal burghs on the river Don, of little trade.

5. Old Meldrum, though no corporation, is a better town than either of them, having good woollen manufactures, and a very great trade in wool and linen.

6. Peterhead, a ſea-port, with a good trade for grain and fiſh, and ſome ſhipping for Norway, &c.

XXV. Banff-ſhire has plenty of grain, cattle, ſea and river-fiſh, and a conſiderable linen manufacture.

1. Banff, its ſhire-town, a ſmall royal burgh and ſea-port, though of ſmall commerce.

2. Fraſerſburgh, a port-town, with a good harbour, and ſome trade to Norway with meal, malt, and grain.

3. Portſoy, a pretty village, having a good fiſhery, and a conſiderable coaſting trade.

XXVI. and XXVII The ſhires of Elgin and Nairn conſtitute both parts of the fine and plentiful country having the ancient appellation of Murray or Moray, moſtly a plain level country, abounding with the fineſt wheat, (beyond many counties of a more ſouthern climate) and other grain, with great plenty of all other neceſſaries, as cattle, ſea and river-fiſh.

1. Elgin, its ancient ſhire-town, is a royal burgh, but no ſea-port; yet has ſome manufactures.

2. Nairn, a ſmall royal burgh, having an harbour, and ſome coaſting trade.

XXVIII. Inverneſs-ſhire contains the town of that name, having a good harbour, a fine ſtone-bridge over the river Neſs, and a thriving foreign and coaſting trade. In it are two churches.

At the Weſt Highland town of Maryburgh, or Inverlochy, ſtands a royal fort, with a garriſon, named Fort William, where are ſome ſhipping, chiefly for ſupplying the garriſon and neighbourhood with neceſſaries.

XXIX. and XXX. The ſhires of Cromarty and Tayne conſtitute the largeſt county in Scotland, known ſtill by its ancient appellation of Roſs; towards the weſt, it is rugged, rocky, and mountainous; incapable of tillage, but breeding vaſt quantities of ſmall black cattle, large droves of which are annually ſent to England: its eaſtern coaſt is however more level and fertile.

1. Cromarty is a ſmall royal burgh, with one of the beſt harbours in Great Britain, admirably well fitted for trade and fiſhery; but has very little commerce, excepting a mere coaſting trade.

2. Tayne, a ſmall ſea-port, with ſome coaſting trade.

3. Chanry, a ſmall town, with a harbour, but very little trade: oppoſite to which, ſituated at the entrance of the friths of Cromarty and Moray, is Fort George, a very ſtrong and extenſive modern fortification.

4. Dingwall, a ſmall ſea-port town at the head of the bay of Cromarty, of little trade.

Oppoſite to Dingwall, on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of Cromarty Frith, is ſituated the ſmall diſtrict of Farintoſh, celebrated for its extenſive whiſkey diſtillery.

To this extenſive county belongs the large and tolerably well peopled Iſle of Skye, divided from the weſt ſhore of the country by a very narrow ſtrait of the ſea.

From this iſle is carried on a very great herring-fiſhery, and alſo from ſome neighbouring iſles.—Skye produces ſo much grain, as to be enabled therewith to ſupply a good part of its neighbouring continent.

Round the yet larger iſle of Lewis, and its many bays, lying farther to the north-weſt in the ocean, there is an exuberance of the beſt fiſh of all kinds; as herring, cod, ling, ſkate, haddock, &c. It is reckoned about eighty miles in length, ſtretching from ſouth to north, including its ſouth part, called Harris, joined to it by a narrow iſthmus: but, ſurely, South and North Uiſt, ſeparated from Lewis by only narrow ſtraits, muſt be included in this extent.

XXXI. The ſhire of Sutherland, or Dornoch, produces ſmall cattle, ſheep, wool, hides, ſkins, tallow, and immenſe quantities of both ſea and river-fiſh; yet has no town of any note but Dornoch, which is, however, but an inconſiderable one, though a royal burgh.

Strathnavern, a part of the weſt-ſide of this ſhire, is very mountainous, and has only ſmall villages in it.

XXXII. The ſhire of Cathneſs, which joins with Bute for ſending one repreſentative to Parliament, though the furtheſt north county of the iſland of Great Britain, is yet a better ſoil than ſome counties more ſoutherly, and they ſpeak the Engliſh tongue, to the very extreme point of the land, more intelligibly than in ſeveral other counties.

1. Wick is its ſhire-town, and a royal burgh, with a good harbour, but little trade.

2. Thurſo, a ſmall ſea-port, with a tolerable harbour, pointing to Pentland Frith, which ſeparates the Orkneys from the continent.

Here is Dungſbay (*i. e.* Duncan's-bay) Head, projecting north-eaſt into the ſaid frith, and is the very fartheſt promontory or point of land of the whole iſland of Great Britain northward.

XXXIII. The ſtewartry, or ſhire of Orkney and Shetland, conſiſts of the two great cluſters of iſles going reſpectively by thoſe two general appellations, in the northern ocean.

That of Orkney conſiſts of twenty-eight iſles, though not all inhabited. The largeſt and beſt inhabited, being twenty-four miles in length, is named Pomona, (for what reaſon, it is ſomewhat hard

hard to gueſs) and, conſidering its very northern latitude, is well cultivated and fertile. Its chief town is Kirkwall, a royal burgh, having ſome trade and ſmall ſhipping. The products here conſiſt of grain, cattle, hides, tallow, lead, ſalt, coarſe cloth, and ſtockings, bed-feathers, ſalt-fiſh, &c. And the other leſſer iſles are generally well enough ſupplied with grain, cattle, fiſh, &c.

That of Shetland contains forty-ſix iſles, beſide what, in the old Norwegian or Norſe language, are called *holms* (*i. e.* mere rocks). The largeſt has obtained the obvious name of Mainland, or, as ſome Dutch maps call it, Hetland) being near ſixty miles in length, and ſixteen in breadth. People here are, for the moſt part, employed in fiſhing, knitting of ſtockings, or in making a coarſe kind of woollen cloth, with which they ſupply the Dutch and other foreign fiſhing veſſels. Here are two ſmall towns, Lerwick and Scalloway; the former being the chief, lies near the famous harbour or ſound called Braſſa-Sound, and conſiſts of about three hundred ſtone houſes, there being no timber, nor any ſort of fruit growing here higher than their garden-walls, becauſe of their nipping froſts. Moſt of their other iſles are inhabited, and many of them have pariſh churches. The herring-buſſes of the Hollanders and Hamburgers carry on a conſiderable trade with the natives for their coarſe woollen goods, in exchange for their money, liquors, &c. and ſhips from Ireland, Scotland, and Orkney, bring them meal, barley, and malt. Scalloway is a ſmaller place, ſituated on the ſame chief iſle.

IRELAND.

The kingdom of Ireland is a fine and fertile iſland, abounding in all the neceſſaries and conveniences that a reaſonable man can wiſh for, wine only excepted. In it are found many large and opulent cities, a great number of handſome and eminent trading towns, and very valuable materials for commerce.

I. Of the four great diviſions of the kingdom, we ſhall begin with that which is beſt inhabited, viz. the fine province (once kingdom) of Leinſter, on its eaſt ſide, directly oppoſite to Wales.

In this province are contained,

1. Dublin, its ſuperb capital, and the famous metropolis of the whole kingdom. Of this city it has been very frequently and confidently aſſerted, that, ſince the year 1711, or, according to others, three years later, or ſince the acceſſion of the illuſtrious Houſe of Hanover to the crown, it has ſo rapidly increaſed, as, in ſo ſhort a ſpace, to have added to her ſuburbs no fewer than four thouſand houſes, and thirty thouſand inhabitants. As it is the ſeat of government, it may eaſily be ſuppoſed to have in it many noble edifices, corporation-halls, hoſpitals, charity-ſchools, alms-houſes, beſide fourteen pariſh churches, many Proteſtant meeting-houſes, and even more Popiſh maſs-houſes, by them called chapels. An archbiſhopric, one cathedral, and one collegiate church; a royal caſtle, a flouriſhing univerſity, ſome fine ſquares, and ſeveral bridges croſs its river Liffy. It ſtands in ſo good a country, as enables it to export many materials for commerce, and particularly great quantities of ſalt proviſions, hides, tallow, butter, and cheeſe; but principally, of late years, an almoſt incredible quantity of linen, of various ſorts, to the great enriching of Ireland. Dublin, therefore, with all ſuch advantages, cannot fail to have a great commerce, and a numerous ſhipping, and may probably contain about one hundred thouſand inhabitants; much about the ſize of Stockholm, Copenhagen, Berlin, Marſeilles, and our own Briſtol.

2. Wexford, a large, well-built, and much frequented ſea-port, with a good harbour, and a conſiderable quantity of ſhipping.

3. Kilkenny, a pleaſant and reaſonably large inland city, with ſome commerce.

4. Roſs,

4. Roſs, a town, with a tolerably good trade.

5. Trim, on the Boyne, has alſo a pretty good trade.

II. The province of Ulſter lies to the north of Leinſter. Here it was that Ireland's vaſt linen manufacture took its riſe amongſt the Scots, long ſettled there, and where it ſtill moſt peculiarly flouriſhes, beyond any other part of that kingdom. This alſo is the only one of Ireland's four capital provinces wherein the Proteſtants out-number the Papiſts, occaſioned by the deſcendants of the numerous Scots who long ago ſettled, and were often recruited here, being all Proteſtants; and they equally outdo their Popiſh neighbours in point of ſobriety and induſtry. The beſt places here are,

1. Drogheda, (otherwiſe written Tredagh) a ſtrong and populous town at the mouth of the river Boyne, has a good harbour, and carries on an extenſive trade with the north part of England.

2. Armagh is eſteemed the moſt fertile county in Ireland, yet the town, (or, if it will pleaſe better, the city of that name) though the ſeat of an archbiſhop, who is primate of all Ireland, is at preſent a poor place, or mere village, having, in Queen Elizabeth's time, been deſtroyed by the rebel O'Neale, and has never ſince been able to recover its ancient luſtre.

3. Belfaſt, a good ſea-port and trading town, at the mouth of the Lagen-water.

4. Downpatrick has a flouriſhing manufacture.

5. Carrickfergus, or Knockfergus, is by ſome deemed the capital town of the province, has a good harbour, but little commerce. Theſe places lie oppoſite to the north parts of England.

6. Derry, or Londonderry, as it s moſt uſually called, ſtands on Loch-Foyl; is a ſtrong little city, having linen manufactures, with ſome commerce and ſhipping. And this extreme north part of Ireland is ſituated ſo near Scotland, that the inhabitants are in ſight of each others coaſts.

7. Donnegal, the county town of the ſame name, otherwiſe called the county of Tyrconnel, is a place of ſome trade, as is likewiſe Enniſkilling. All which places, and many more, though leſs conſiderable ones, are chiefly, and moſt induſtriouſly, employed in the manufactures of linen and linen thread, to the great benefit of the whole kingdom, which, by its vaſt annual exportations of linen into England, is enabled to pay for the great annual importations from England into Ireland, and likewiſe to render the money conſtantly drawn from Ireland into England by her abſentees, leſs grievous to her.

III. The province of Connaught, lying on the weſt ſide of Ireland, is, in ſome parts, very fertile, but in others, it is covered with woods and bogs. It lies moſtly weſt of the great river Shannon, and is the leaſt populous, leaſt induſtrious, and moſt Popiſh, of any of the four capital provinces of Ireland. Its beſt places are,

1. Sligo, on a bay of that name, having a caſtle and a convenient harbour.

2. Athlone, a fortified town, on the river Shannon, with a market.

3. Roſcommon, a market-town, with a fair.

4. Galway, a good town, the capital of Connaught, a biſhop's ſee, with a fine harbour, and ſome ſmall commerce.

5. Tuam, though an archbiſhopric, is merely a village.

IV. The province of Munſter is the moſt ſouthern part or diviſion of Ireland; and, next after Dublin, has the four beſt places of that kingdom, for foreign commerce and ſhipping, viz.

1. Cork, by far the nobleſt city next to Dublin, whether conſidered in reſpect to magnitude, riches, commerce, or ſhipping; every one of which are truly great. Its immenſe exportation of ſalt proviſions of all kinds, except fiſh, is well known.

2. Waterford, the third city of Ireland in the four before-named reſpects, but not, as Buſching's New Geography alleges, the ſecond city of the kingdom.

3. Limerick is a handſome, populous, well-traded and ſtrong city, on both ſides the Shannon, a place of good commerce and ſhipping.

☞ The preciſe magnitude, or the number of people in theſe three cities, as they truly merit to be denominated, we have exhibited, with Dublin, in the body of our work, under the year 1760.

4. Kingſale is a populous and ſtrong town, with an excellent harbour and conſiderable commerce and ſhipping: and it is, moreover, occaſionally a ſtation for the navy royal; for which end there reſide at this port proper naval officers, ſtorehouſes, &c.

5. Caſhel, a place of ſome conſideration; and the ſee of an Archbiſhop.

6. Clonmell, a fortified and Parliament town.

7. Kilmallock, a good town.

8. Dingle, a good market town.

9. Youghall, a well-inhabited town, with a good harbour, and ſome trade and ſhipping.

10. Baltimore, a ſmall town with a good harbour.

Many of the places in Ireland where cathedrals are placed, (as alſo ſeveral of thoſe in Scotland, where formerly there were ſuch) being no better than mere villages, we have not therefore honoured them ſo far as to term them cities; ſince, without being ſo much as a corporation in an Engliſh legal ſenſe, they cannot, by any propriety, be termed cities, as we have already obſerved in the deſcription of Ely and Landaff.

FRANCE.

France is undoubtedly one of the fineſt countries upon earth, in point of ſoil, climate, and fertility. Yet, like all other extenſive countries, it has many barren tracks and mountains. In ſome parts it yields an exuberance, and in all a ſufficiency of the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life. Corn, excellent wines, ſalt, olives and their oil, cyder in her northern provinces, many kinds of fine fruits in general, and Bourdeaux exports whole ſhip loads of Prunes.—Capers are chiefly in the country about Toulon.—Flax and hemp in the French Netherlands, and other parts.—Wool in moſt provinces.—Silk, cultivated with great ſucceſs in Provence and Languedoc.—In Normandy and Auvergne, plenty of horned cattle and mules.—In Burgundy, Normandy, and Alſace, the ſtrongeſt horſes.—France is ſupplied with ſhip timber from Alſace, Burgundy, and Lorrain, and more eſpecially, alſo, from the Pyrenean mountains; yet it is ſaid, that in the other provinces, a ſcarcity of timber, and of wood for fuel, begins to be ſenſibly felt.—France boaſts of mines of copper, lead and iron, and alſo ſome ſilver mines and marble quarries.—In all parts they make ſaltpetre. Theſe we may term her natural products. Her manufactures and improvements are very numerous. The ſingle city of Tours, in King Louis the Fourteenth's reign, abounded ſo much in the ſilk manufacture, as to have had eight thouſand looms and eight hundred mills conſtantly employed. In Lyons, according to Dr. Buſching, there were formerly eighteen thouſand looms, but were in the year 1698 decreaſed to four thouſand, which was owing to their expelling the induſtrious Proteſtants, and to the wars of France with England, Holland, and Germany. Their woollen cloths and ſtuffs more eſpecially at Abbeville are ſaid to be little inferior to thoſe of England and Holland, aſſiſted by the clandeſtine importation of Engliſh wool.—Abbeville is alſo famous for its manufactures of linen, ſail cloth, and ſoap.—Auvergne for fine thread, lace and ſtuffs, and for paper accounted the fineſt in Europe.—Niſmes for fine ſerges and ſtuffs.—Cambray for cambrics, and St. Quintin for lawns.—In Picardy are the fineſt glaſs manufactures.—In other parts are fine manufactures of gold and ſilver ſtuffs, embroideries, ſewing ſilk, ſattins, crapes, laces, toys, millenary wares, tapeſtries, pluſh,

hats,

hats, parchment, hardware, pot-aſh, pitch, oils of olives, turpentine, linſeed and almonds, brandy, raiſins, &c. For her inland trade, her navigable rivers and canals, more eſpecially that called the Canal Royal, in Languedoc are great conveniencies. France's coaſting trade, from one port to another, is alſo very conſiderable.—Her foreign trade extends to every part of the known world, either by land or by ſea. Her land trade extends to every part of the known world, either by land or by ſea. Her land trade to Switzerland and Italy is by the way of Lyons.—To Germany, through Metz and Straſburg.—To the Netherlands, through Liſle.—To Spain, a moſt profitable one, through Bayonne and Perpignan. As for her naval commerce, her ports in the Channel and on the Weſtern Ocean are frequented by all the trading nations of Europe, to her very great advantage, more eſpecially reſpecting what is carried on with England, Holland, and Italy.—The trade from her Mediterranean ports, more particularly from Marſeilles, with Aſia and Africa, has long been very conſiderable. The negro trade from Guinea ſupplies her ſugar colonies; beſide the gold, ivory, and drugs got from thence.—And her Eaſt India commerce, till lately, has been extremely proſperous.

France produces within herſelf moſt of the materials for ſhip-building, and her late efforts for augmenting and ſupporting a marine were ſuch as had never been before made by that country.—The people of France, according to the beſt accounts, amount to about twenty-four millions. Her eccleſiaſtics are computed to amount to above one hundred and ninety thouſand perſons, with an annual income of a great deal above one hundred millions of livres. Her convents, of both ſexes, are about one thouſand two hundred in number.

To begin with the French Netherlands:

French Flanders contains the caſtellany and city of Liſle, or Ryſſel, which is not only a moſt extenſive and important fortreſs, with an excellent citadel, but is a large city containing near one hundred thouſand people, thirty churches, &c. and many convents. Liſle carries on a great trade in manufactures of ſilk, camblets, cloths, ſtuffs, linen, &c. and is ſo fine a city as to be termed Little Paris.

2. Douay, a moderately large and ſtrong place, with eight churches, ſeveral convents, and an univerſity. At its annual fairs are vended great quantities of worſted camblets and other ſtuffs.

3. Cambray, on the Scheldt, is a large and ſtrong city, having ten pariſh churches, &c. It was long famous beyond any other place, for the fine linen to which it gave its name, though of late it is ſaid, other parts in this reſpect excel it.

4. Dunkirk is an exceeding ſtrong place, with a fine citadel; its harbour is extremely improved, having two moles of piles forming a canal in the ſea, of one thouſand fathoms in length and forty in breadth, ſo as a ſhip of ſeventy cannon may paſs through it, and at the end of each of thoſe moles are batteries; and other forts and caſtles were erected on each hand, betwixt all which forts, ſhips were to paſs in their way to the harbour, contiguous to which was a large baſon: it had a flouriſhing trade; and Dr. Buſching relates, that in the year 1706, it contained one thouſand ſix hundred and thirty-nine houſes, and fourteen thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-four inhabitants.—For the ſafety of England's commerce, however, France was obliged to ſtipulate, at the peace of Utrecht, in the year 1713, to deſtroy all Dunkirk's fortifications, and at her own charge alſo to fill up its harbour. In 1717, it was ſtipulated, at the Hague, betwixt England, France, and Holland, that the large entrance to the new ſluice at Mardyke ſhould be entirely demoliſhed, and that no harbour, ſluice, nor baſon, ſhould ever be made either at Mardyke or at Dunkirk, nor within two French leagues round. Notwithſtanding all which, France, as uſual, egregiouſly trifled with ſuch ſtipulations. At the laſt peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in the year 1748, thoſe demolitions were again ſtipulated to be performed; but ſhe was ſo far from doing it, that, underhand, ſhe began ſome new works,

the town was again fortified on the land ſide, the baſon was widened and rendered as commodious for ſhipping as ever before, and all this done in the face of the whole world; but, by the treaty of 1763, it was again ſtipulated to be demoliſhed, which was effected, and an Engliſh commiſſary appointed to reſide there. But at the concluſion of the laſt war, the buſineſs of Dunkirk was entirely given up, and the French have now no obſtructions to any plan of fortifying or ſtrengthening that harbour, &c.

5. Graveline, a ſmall but ſtrong town.

6. Bourbourg, a ſmall town, much reduced by the calamities of war, &c. though it has ſtill two convents.

7. St. Wynoxberg, a ſtrong place: and,

8. Caſſel, the capital of a large caſtellany containing ſeveral little towns, and ſituate on the only mountain in Flanders.

II. French Hainault contains,

1. Valenciennes, a large, ſtrong and populous town, on the Scheldt, with a conſiderable trade in manufactures of linen, ſilk, mohair goods and tabbies. It has many churches and convents.

The French part of the county of Namur contains only,

1. Charlemont, which is little more than a fortreſs commanding the Maeſe, but one of the fineſt of its kind in Europe.

2. Givet, a ſmall modern handſome town, regularly fortified, commanded and protected by the former.

The whole Netherland province of Artois is entirely poſſeſſed by France, and is one of its fineſt provinces. It is fertile in grain, flax, hops, and wool, has conſiderable linen manufactures, tapeſtry, &c.

1. Arras, its capital, is a large, ſtrong, and fine city, formerly peculiarly eminent for its fine tapeſtry hangings, named from this city, as being here invented: although in our days they come ſhort of thoſe of Paris, Bruſſels, and Antwerp. This city has alſo manufactures of ſayes, and other light woollen ſtuffs, linen, &c. And Mr. Nugent thinks that the churches and chapels are above one hundred, including thoſe of their many convents.

2. St. Omer is alſo a conſiderable place, and of ſome trade, having a cathedral, and ſix pariſh churches, two colleges, a celebrated abbey, and ſeveral convents.

3. 4. Aire and Bethune are very ſtrong fortreſſes, but little is to be found in them of commerce or manufactures, though they contain many churches and convents. Bethune, indeed, has two conſiderable annual fairs.

The adjoining province of Picardy is a fine country.

1. Amiens is its chief city, and is a large and beautiful one on the Somme. Here are manufactured great quantities of ferret ribbons, half ſilk ſtuffs, linen, ſoap, and many other manufactures. It is populous, and has many churches and convents.

2. St. Quentin is likewiſe a conſiderable place, with many churches and convents: but is principally known for the vaſt quantities of its manufactures of lawn, which employ great numbers of people.

3. Abbeville, on the Somme, the tide riſing ſix feet here, it has a great trade in grain, oil, flax, cordage and ſoap. Its fine woollen cloth manufacture has been famous ever ſince the year 1665, when it was firſt eſtabliſhed by Van Roble from Holland.

4. Calais, though not large, yet carries on a conſiderable trade in wines, brandies, ſalt and flax.

The next adjoining province, ſouthward, is that called the Iſle of France, and is a fine and pleaſant country, replete with all neceſſaries and conveniencies.

Paris, its capital, and alſo the capital of the whole kingdom, is a moſt ſuperb and magnificent city. Its ſtreets, according to Dr. Buſching, are computed to amount to nine hundred and twelve. And its houſes from four to ſeven ſtories high, to above twenty thouſand, excluſive of churches, chapels, convents, colleges, communities, warehouſes and ſhops. Dr. Buſching adds, that the number of its inhabitants cannot greatly exceed four hundred thouſand. For from the year 1728, to the year 1736, the medium of her annual bills of mortality was but ſeventeen thouſand eight hundred: and, continues he, it is calculated, upon very probable computations, that of twenty-five perſons in this city, one dies yearly. This is contrary to our moſt uſual computations in England, viz. that even in great and populous cities there dies but one out of thirty yearly. Poſſibly, however, our ſaid learned and otherwiſe judicious author, may have taken into this computation the great number of murders and of foundling children there, which may perhaps bring his ſuppoſition nearer to fact: but as, under the years 1760 and 1761, we have more fully handled this particular, we muſt refer thereto.—According to the laſt and beſt calculations by the Abbé Expilly, Paris is ſuppoſed to contain about ſix hundred and fifty thouſand inhabitants.

We ſhall not ſo much as offer at a full deſcription of this truly great city, of which enough is publiſhed in all European languages; our province being circumſcribed within the narrower bounds of commercial conſiderations, we ſhall only very briefly obſerve, that (although we cannot join abſolutely with one of King Francis the Firſt's miniſters, who being aſked by the Emperor Charles V. then at Paris, which was the fineſt city of France; replied, Orleans: and, upon that Emperor's ſurprize, anſwered, like a true Frenchman, that Paris was rather a world than a ſingle city!) Paris has in it all the uſual allurements of great and magnificent capital cities, and perhaps more than moſt others have, for attracting the reſort and admiration of foreigners, from almoſt all the different countries of Europe; either reſpecting its public and private edifices, ſquares and ſtreets, or the amuſements of plays, operas, and maſquerades, the ſplendor of the court of ſo potent an abſolute monarch, &c. And is, for thoſe and ſuch-like reaſons, not only reſorted to, with which we do not find fault, but too long reſided in by many of our young nobility and gentry, not ſeldom to the diſſipation of their eſtates, and too often of their morals and principles. Here are to be found the fineſt manufactures of gold and ſilver ſtuffs, the fineſt tapeſtry of the Gobelins, the moſt ſplendid equipages, the moſt exquiſite paintings, ſculpture, embroidery and ſtatuary; and with all thoſe allurements, are to be ſeen much poverty and the other concomitants of a government not founded in liberty.

And here we may add, that, as we have, in this brief introduction to the commercial deſcription of France, given a ſummary view of its principal manufactures, productions and commerce; and have, in the following account, exhibited likewiſe a ſummary view of its principal cities and great towns, both inland and maritime; we may, for brevity's ſake, be excuſed from the particular deſcription of ſeveral leſſer cities and towns, moſt of which diſplay little elſe but a kind of ſplendid poverty, after abſtracting from ſuch places their cathedral, churches, abbeys, and convents; although, in point of the compaſs of ground they may ſtand on, they would, in other countries, paſs for very conſiderable places. We have made much the ſame remark concerning Munſter in Germany, which might likewiſe be made of various other cities of that and other parts of Chriſtendom, where popery is triumphant, and their clergy rich and numerous; whereas in Proteſtant countries it may be obſerved, that, as there are few eccleſiaſtical edifices in their cities and towns, but what are for God's worſhip in a parochial way, ſuch places do not generally appear ſo ſplendid, although they may contain

tain much more of wealth, commerce and manufactures than thoſe other places, gay in external appearance, though, in reality, their lay-inhabitants are oft-times found to be poor and abject even in France, and much more in Spain, Portugal and Italy.

The environs, or country about Paris, is allowed to be conſiderably leſs populous than the environs of London. In the province named the iſle of France, are ſeveral towns, though with ſmall commerce, as, Corbeil, its principal trade being in ſkins.—Senlis, in wool.—Compiegne, chiefly trading in corn, wool and timber.—Noyon, its principal trade is in grain, though it has no leſs than ten pariſh churches, beſide a cathedral, two abbeys, two convents, &c. Many of the reſt of its cities and towns, are only generally deſcribed by the number of their churches, convents, and abbeys, without any thing relative to commerce or manufactures, and therefore we think it beſt to ſay nothing of them; and the ſame may be ſaid of very many called cities and great towns, in the other provinces of France.

Beauvais, however, is a conſiderable city in this province, wherein is a very conſiderable manufacture of tapeſtry and of woollen cloths and ſerges. It contains a cathedral, ſix collegiate churches, thirteen pariſh churches, three abbeys, &c.

Dourdan, a ſmall town, famous for its manufacture of ſilk and woollen ſtockings.—Melun trades to Paris in corn, meal, wine, and cheeſe.

In the government of Champagne and Brie, is,

1. Rheims, its large capital city, it carries on a conſiderable trade in the excellent wines of this province, and in woollen and ſilk ſtuffs, and fine ginger-bread. Beſide its grand gothic cathedral, it has many fine pariſh churches, three collegiate ones, five abbeys, a fine college, nine convents, and ſeveral charity foundations.

2. Troyes, though ſomewhat decayed, has ſtill fourteen churches, and carries on a trade in linen and canvas, in flax and hemp, canvas, fuſtians, ſerges, tapeſtry, needles, grain and wine.

3. Langres is noted for much cutlery wares.

4. Meaux, the capital of the province of Brie, which was once a large foreſt, its traffic is principally in grain, wool and cheeſe.

5. Sedan, once a famous academy of the French Proteſtants, has manufactures of cloth and ſerge.

The government of Metz comprehends the other two cities of Toul and Verdun, all, with their diſtricts and leſſer towns, conquered from the German empire.

Metz is a large and ſtrong city, at the confluence of the Moſelle and Seille, it has three chapters, ſixteen pariſh churches, beſide convents, &c. and ſome conſiderable trade in ſalt-works, &c. The other towns in this diſtrict have ſome inconſiderable trade.

Toul and Verdun are alſo large cities and biſhoprics, and were formerly imperial cities.

Lorrain and Bar are countries fertile in grain, and have alſo mines of iron, copper, tin and ſilver; they have alſo many profitable ſalt-ſprings.

Nancy, its capital, is a very handſome city, has ſix churches and nineteen convents.

In the government of Burgundy.

In Burgundy dutchy there is a great fertility of corn and fruits, and excellent wines.

Dijon, its capital, is a large and ſtrong city, having a Parliament, ſixteen churches, and many other public ſtructures. It deals much in Burgundy wines. Other leſſer towns here deal alſo in wines, and have ſome woollen manufactures and ſalt works.

In Burgundy county, or Franche Compté, is Bezançon, its capital, and is large, fair and ſtrong, containing many churches, convents and other public edifices. It deals largely in wines and excellent corn. It contains a famous univerſity, and is the ſeat of a Parliament. Here alſo are many leſſer towns, dealing in hemp, wines, and minerals of various kinds.

The government of Alſace is doubtleſs a fine country, abounding in grain, fruits, wines, flax, hemp, tobacco, tartar, ſaffron. It alſo has mines of ſilver, iron, lead, and copper. It is ſaid to contain one thouſand market-towns and villages, and half a million of people.

Straſburgh, its once renowned capital, ſtands on a branch of the left ſide of the Rhine, and was, whilſt a free imperial city, large and populous. It at preſent contains about three thouſand two hundred houſes, four thouſand three hundred families, and forty thouſand inhabitants. It is much declined in commerce and wealth, ſince it fell into the poſſeſſion of France, as have alſo the ten lately imperial cities of this great province, for the ſame reaſon.

The government or province of Normandy is one of the moſt fertile in France, abounding in grain, fruits, flax, hemp, ſalt, iron, and copper mines, woad and other vegetables for dyers, fine paſtures and good cattle. They have little and alſo very indifferent wines, ſo that their uſual drink is cyder and perry.

In Upper Normandy is,

1. Caudebec, a ſmall but populous ſea port, on the right of the river Seine; once famous for a manufacture of felt hats, and it has ſtill ſome naval commerce.

2. St. Valery, a large market-town, having a ſmall harbour on the Engliſh Channel.

3. Dieppe, on the ſame coaſt, eminent for ſea-faring people, and for lace manufactures and ivory-works: ſome think it contains twenty thouſand inhabitants.

4. Rouen, on the Seine, is the capital of Normandy, the ſeat of a Parliament, and univerſity, a large and populous city, containing ſeven thouſand two hundred houſes, thirty-ſix pariſh churches, and fifty-ſix convents. It has a very conſiderable commerce, both maritime and inland; veſſels of two hundred tons can ſail up with the tide to its great quay. It is a magazine of valuable merchandize to be diſperſed over a great part of France. It contains one hundred and twenty-five ſtreets, beſide ſquares and public edifices.

5. Caen is the ſecond town in Normandy, containing twelve churches, an univerſity, and fourteen convents; its principal trade is in woollen cloth, ſtuffs and fine linen; which alſo, though in a leſſer degree, are the manufactures of other ſmaller towns of this province.

6. Bayeux, on the river Aure, has ſeventeen churches, and ſundry convents and hoſpitals, but thin of inhabitants, becauſe of little commerce.

7. Le Havre de Grace is a ſtrong town, at the mouth of the Seine, with a good harbour; it was firſt built by King Francis I. and its proſperity has proved the ruin of its neighbour Harfleur.

The large and fine province of Bretagne contains many good cities and towns, viz.

1. Rennes, an inland city, on the river Villaine, being the capital of this province, and is large and populous.

2. Nantes, on the great river Loire, is one of the moſt conſiderable trading cities in the kingdom, being large and well ſituated for naval commerce; it has a great trade to the French American colonies, as alſo to Spain, Portugal, and other parts. Ships of great burden can get no further up the Loire than to Painbeuf, a market-town, where their cargoes are put into ſmaller veſſels, and carried up to Nantes.

St. Malo, a ſmall but ſtrong and populous city, on a little rocky iſland in the ſea, but joined to the continent by a fortified mole and cauſeway. In peaceable times it carries on a conſiderable trade with England, Holland, and Spain; and in time of war is conveniently ſituated for privateering, as Engliſh traders have often fatally experienced; and is commonly termed one of the keys of France.

4. Vannes, a conſiderable ſea-port on Morbian Bay, but though it has a very good harbour, it is not particularly eminent for commerce.

5. Port Louis had its preſent name and fortifications from King Louis XIV. its former name having been Blavet, ſeated on a river of that name: its preſent trade is in eels and pilchards.

6. Port L'Orient is a modern town near Port Louis, higher up the oppoſite ſide of the river Blavet; ſolely deſtined for the reception and convenience of the French Eaſt India Company's ſhipping, warehouſes, naval ſtores, docks, wharfs, &c. and well fortified.

7. Morlaix is a ſmall ſea-port privateering town, in war time, and in peaceable times carries on ſome naval commerce.

8. Breſt is a ſmall but very ſtrong town and port, with a moſt ſpacious and fine fortified road and harbour, the beſt and ſafeſt in all the kingdom: yet its entrance is difficult, by reaſon of many rocks lying under water. At Breſt is a Court of Admiralty, an academy for ſea officers, docks and magazines for all kinds of naval ſtores, rope-yards, ſail-lofts, ſtorehouſes, &c. Inſomuch that it may now be termed the capital receptacle on the ocean for the navy royal of France, and is admirably well adapted for that end.

The ſmall iſles of Oueſſant, or Uſhant, lie near Breſt Bay, on one of which there is a light-houſe for the conveniency of ſhips going into or coming out of Breſt, and a fort.

Belle-Iſle is, on all ſides, environed with rocks, excepting at its three landing places; at one of which is ſituated its fortified town of Palais.

The ſmall iſle of Sain, on this coaſt, is very dangerous, by reaſon of rocks and ſhallows about it.

The Iſle of Bas, lying oppoſite to the city of St. Pol de Leon on the Continent, forms a fine road. All this coaſt abounds in pilchards.

In this noble province there are more good ports, either adapted for war or for commerce, than in any other of the kingdom.

In the inland counties of Maine and Perche, is,

1. The city of Mans, containing ſixteen pariſh churches, twelve convents, and other public edifices, and fifteen thouſand inhabitants, but nothing elſe memorable.

2. Mortagne has four churches and as many convents, and has ſome conſiderable manufactures of coarſe linens.

In the government of Poictou, are,

1. Poictiers, its capital, an inland city, on the river Clain; it is of a large extent, and full of churches and convents. Its manufactures are gloves, combs, woollen caps and ſtockings for the American colonies.

2. The iſles of Noirmoutier and of Yeu lie on this coaſt; the former is populous, and has two little towns; but the latter has nothing memorable.

The government of Orleanois, though entirely inland, yet, by means of the great river Loire, it carries on the moſt extenſive trade, in its kind, of any part of the kingdom; and, by means alſo of the canal of Briaire, begun by King Henry the Fourth, and compleated by his ſon Louis the Thirteenth, by which the Loire is joined the to Loing, which falls into the Seine, whereby a water-communication is formed between the countries on the Loire and the city of Paris: alſo by means of another canal, beginning a ſmall way above the city of Orleans, being in length about eighteen leagues, with thirty ſluices on it, and ending in the Loing. This was begun in 1682, and compleated in 1692.

1. The city of Orleans ſtands on the Loire, over which it has a fine ſtone bridge. It is one of the largeſt cities in the kingdom, though for the moſt part but meanly built. It contains twenty-two pariſh

pariſh churches, and many convents, hoſpitals, and other public edifices, an univerſity, a cathedral, &c. Its ſituation, in the midway up the Loire, renders it the magazine of almoſt the whole trade of the kingdom, more eſpecially reſpecting grain, wines, brandy, and ſpices. Here is alſo a conſiderable trade in ſtockings and ſheepſkins, and here alſo are ſome ſugar bakers. Other conſiderable cities in this province are Chartres, Blois, and Vendom, of which we can ſay little, conſidering they lie in ſo fine a province, but that they abound in churches and convents.

The government of Saumur, on the Loire, contains Saumur, its capital, much more opulent when poſſeſſed by the Proteſtants, than at preſent, though it has ſtill three pariſhes and nine convents; but nothing memorable in a commercial ſenſe.

The government of Anjou, eaſt of Bretagne, produces grain, flax, coals, iron, and ſaltpetre; has for its capital,

Angers, a large and populous city, with a cathedral, ſixteen pariſh churches, and many convents. Mr. Nugent makes its houſes amount to nine thouſand, and its inhabitants to thirty-ſix thouſand. It has manufactures of ſerges, camblets, and other ſtuffs, and a conſiderable trade in general.

The government of Nivernois.

It is an inland country, lying on the weſt ſide of Burgundy, and produces wines, grain, fruits, ſome iron mines, and plenty of wood and pit coal.

Nevers, on the Loire, is its only conſiderable city; has eleven pariſh churches, a cathedral, and ſeveral convents. It is celebrated for its porcelain and glaſs manufactures, and enamel works.

The government of Bourbonnois has corn, good wine and fruits, and is eminent for its mineral waters.

Moulins, its beſt town, has nothing conſiderable in a commercial ſenſe.

The government of Berry lies ſouth of the Orleanois; and, beſide grain, produces wine, which in ſome parts is ſaid to be equal to that of Burgundy; alſo good wool, hemp, and flax.

1. Bourges, its capital, has ſo many collegiate and pariſh churches, convents, abbeys, &c. that the clergy and their dependents conſtitute the majority of its inhabitants; and therefore has very little of any thing like commerce.

2. Chateau-Roux has four churches, three convents, and a conſiderable woollen cloth manufactory.

The government of Touraine lies weſt of Orleanois, and is ſo delightful a country as to be termed the Garden of France, abounding with grain, wines, fine fruits, iron and copper.

Tours, its capital, on the Loire, is a large city, having conſiderable manufactures of cloth of gold, ſilk, and woollen cloth.

From the money firſt coined here, and ſtill current through France, aroſe the denomination of livres, ſols, and deniers Tournois.

The government of Auvergne, an inland country, ſouth of Bourbonnois; its lower part is fertile, and abounds in grain, wine, fruits, forage, ſaffron, and hemp: but Upper Auvergne is cold, its mountains tops being covered with ſnow ſeven or eight months in the year, and yet is ſaid to have excellent paſtures. This country carries on a great trade in manufactures of ſilk, woollen cloth and ſtuffs, beautiful laces, and paper deemed the fineſt in Europe.

1. Clermont, the capital of Lower Auvergne, is a fine, large, well-built city, a cathedral, with many churches and convents.

2. St. Flour, in the Upper Province, ſtands on a mountain; yet its carpets, woollen cloths, and knives, are much eſteemed, as are alſo thoſe of Aurillac and Clermont.

The government of Limoſin, weſt of Auvergne.

Limoges, its capital, is but a mean place; yet in other ſmaller towns here are manufactures of woollen cloth and paper.

In the government of La Marche, weſt of Auvergne, there are no eminent towns, yet they have ſome manufactures of tapeſtry.

The government of Saintonge and Angoumois is ſituated to the north of the great river Garonne; abounds in grain, wines, and excellent ſalt.

1. Saintes, capital of Saintonge, on the Charente, is but a mean town.

2. St. Jean d'Angely makes woollen ſtuffs and fine brandy.

3. Angouleſme, on the Charente, has a cathedral, twelve pariſh churches, ten convents, a Jeſuits college, and a general hoſpital. The adjacent country of Angoumois produces grain, Spaniſh corn, wine, ſaffron, ſome excellent iron mines, and fine paper.

The government of Aunis lies ſouth of Saintonge. It is reckoned a barren part of France, and yet produces good grain and wine, and the very beſt of ſalt; it has many ſwamps in it, yet good harbours along its coaſt, particularly,

1. Brouage, a ſtrong but ſmall ſea-port, moſt eminent for the excellent ſalt, made in its neighbouring ſalt marſhes in vaſt quantities; as has alſo Marennes, another ſea-port, which produces excellent wine.

2. Rochfort, a modern ſtrong-built town, on the river Charente, has an excellent dock for ſhipping, large magazines of naval ſtores, a royal marine academy, and an hoſpital for ſeamen.

3. Rochelle, a famous ſea-port, the capital of Aunis, has a good harbour, though rather a fine than a large city: here is an admiralty, a chamber of commerce, a ſugar refinery. Rochelle carries on a great commerce in wines, and alſo more eſpecially to the French American colonies, and their African ſettlements.

The iſles on this coaſt, are,

1. Oleron, famous for its ancient ſea laws, as it is, to this day, for good ſeamen. It is a fruitful iſland.

2. Rhe, has plenty of wine, and very good brandy, exported from its ſmall fortified town named St. Martin's.

4. Aix Iſle, at the mouth of the Charente, on which there was a fort for the defence of the entrance to that river, till it was demoliſhed in the year 1757, by the brave Captain Howe.

The government of Lyonois produces grain, wine, fruits, copper and vitriol.

1. Lyons, its great capital, may, next to Paris, be deemed the largeſt, and, for an inland city, the richeſt and moſt trading of the kingdom. It is ſeated at the confluence of the two famous rivers Rhone and Saone, having two wooden bridges over the latter, and one of ſtone over the Rhone. In point of magnitude it is about one fourth part of Paris; has two fine ſquares, a fine town-houſe, an exchange, a fine arſenal, many churches, convents, and hoſpitals. The bulk of its inhabitants are manufacturers of gold, ſilver, and ſilk ſtuffs, and of gold and ſilver lace. Formerly the looms in and about this city amounted to about eighteen thouſand; but in the year 1698 their number was found to be reduced to four thouſand: though it is ſtill in great repute for the before-named manufactures, and for the beautiful luſtre of its bombazeens. Its trade, in brief, extends not only all over France, but even to Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, and England.

2. St. Eſtienne de Furens, is a large and populous town, and carries on a great trade in hardware, being their principal manufacture.

In the government of Guienne and Gaſcony.

The country abounds ſo much with vines, that they ſtand propped, almoſt like trees, in the open fields.

1. Bourdeaux, its capital, on the river Garonne, is a city of great commerce, where, for its preſervation and improvement, the Engliſh, Dutch, Danes, Hamburgers, and Lubeckers, though Proteſtants, are connived at in the exerciſe of their religion in their own houſes, as are likewiſe the Portugueſe Jews. Bourdeaux is reported to export annually one hundred thouſand tons of wine; beſide brandy, cheſnuts, prunes, figs, and many other ſorts of merchandize. This city is thought to contain about fifty thouſand inhabitants.

2. At Blaye, on the Garonne, going up to Bourdeaux, ſhips are obliged to leave their cannon and arms till they return: and the Garonne being there very wide, there is a battery on an iſland, beſide a fort on either ſhore. At Bourdeaux is an univerſity and a parliament; it has many fair ſtreets, markets, churches, convents, and charitable foundations.

3. The leſſer towns of Aiguillon, Clerac, Marmande, &c. carry on a conſiderable trade in hemp, tobacco, grain, wine, and brandy.

4. Montauban is a large, handſome, and polite city, on the river Tarne; its principal trade conſiſting in ſilk and woollen ſtuffs: it contains about eighteen thouſand inhabitants.

Gaſcony conſtitutes the ſouth part of this government, of which

Bayonne is a conſiderable fortified ſea-port, with a fine harbour, and well frequented by ſhipping. It has a conſiderable trade in wines, in Spaniſh wool brought over the Pyrenean mountains on mules, in return for French ſugars. Hither alſo is brought down in floats, from the rivers running between the Pyrenean mountains, timber for ſhip-building, thence afterwards ſent to Breſt and other ports.

In French Navarre and Bearn, the only town of note, is,

Pau, its capital, which produces good wine, and has a woollen manufacture.

In the government of Languedoc, the fineſt province in France for health and fertility, there is abundance of corn, wine, oil, fruits, ſalt, ſaffron, glaſs, ſoap, marble, metals, and minerals; but its coaſts are dangerous, and want good and ſecure harbours. The grand royal canal of this province, intended to join the Ocean with the Mediterranean ſea, from Toulouſe to Agdé on the Mediterranean, ſo as ſhips might paſs from one ſea to another, was executed between the years 1666 and 1680; a work much to the credit of Louis XIV. Yet it is doubted by ſome, whether the expence of keeping it in repair does not overbalance its advantages.

1. Toulouſe, its capital, is pleaſantly ſeated on the Garonne, which ſome think is, next to Paris, the largeſt city in France, having a great number of fine churches, convents, &c. Yet its trade is but inconſiderable, being chiefly in Spaniſh wool, Bergamo carpets, and ſome ſlight woollen ſtuffs. Here is a famous univerſity: and at half an hour's diſtance below Toulouſe, ſays Buſching, the celebrated royal canal before-mentioned joins the Garonne, which here becomes navigable.

In ſeveral leſſer towns of this noble province there are fine woollen and ſilk manufactures; as at Clermont, Alais, Marvejols, &c. and excellent wines.

2. Montpelier, next after Toulouſe, is the largeſt city of this province; and, by means of the river Laz, and the lakes near it, carries on at the harbour of Cette, the greateſt maritime trade of this province, though not of very great conſideration, viz. wines, and, in good years, corn for Italy and Spain; oils and cloth to Switzerland, Germany, and the Levant; dried cheſnuts and raiſins to Tunis and Algiers. Montpelier's principal ſtaple is verdigriſe, in which it carries on a very con-

ſiderable trade; as alſo in aqua vitæ, and Hungary and cinnamon waters, fuſtian, and woollen carpets.

3. Nimes is likewiſe a large city, having ſuch a number of manufactures of cloth of gold and ſilk, and of ſtuffs formerly known by the name of Serge de Nimes, as exceeds that of all the reſt of the province. Narbonne and Beziers ſtand pleaſantly, but have little commerce. But Beaucaire has a fair, which holds for ten days, and is very famous for the vaſt quantities of raw ſilk ſold at it. And at Alais the quantity of unwrought ſilk carried out of it yearly is ſaid to amount to one million two hundred thouſand pounds weight.

In the county of Rouſillon, its capital, is the ſtrong fortreſs of Perpignan, a frontier on the ſide of Spain; but neither in it, nor in any other part of this county, is there any memorable commerce or manufactures.

In the government of Provence are,

1. Aix, its capital city, and an univerſity. It is large, fair, and well-built, having in it ſeveral fine churches, convents, &c. Its neighbourhood yields good wine, and incomparable oil of olives, with which it drives a great trade. Here alſo are ſome ſtuffs manufactured.

2. Arles is a large city on the Rhone; but, according to Dr. Buſching, is no way remarkable for trade or manufactures, having an unhealthy ſituation.

3. Marſeilles is a large opulent, and ancient city, being one of the greateſt in France, conſiſting of near one hundred thouſand inhabitants. Here the royal gallies are uſually built and ſtationed; but its harbour cannot admit of ſhips of above ſix hundred tons burden. Here is a large arſenal, ſtorehouſes, docks, &c. for the King's gallies. Gold and ſilver ſtuffs are here manufactured: but this city's higheſt renown is from its great maritime commerce; almoſt all the trade of France with Spain and Italy, and the entire commerce with the Levant being carried on from Marſeilles.

To Italy, France ſends cloths, ſerges, honey, prunes, figs, capers, olives, oil, ſail cloth, aqua vitæ, and cotton manufactures; and brings back rice, corn, ſulphur, aniſe, manna, and ſilk: leaving a balance in favour of Italy of two hundred thouſand livres, ſays Dr. Buſching; (a balance ſurely ſo ſmall as may be difficult to aſcertain).—To Spain, France exports all kinds of linen, ſilk, and woollen, gold and ſilver ſtuffs, thread and lace, with ſeveral other both home and Levant commodities, to the amount of above nine millions of livres: but its imports from Spain are leſs by two millions; (this is indeed a conſiderable balance in favour of France.) The trade of Marſeilles for raw ſilk, &c. to the Levant, is very great, *i. e.* to Salonichi, Athens, the Archipelago Iſles, Conſtantinople, Smyrna, Aleppo, Tripoli in Syria, Candia, Cairo, and Alexandria; both with reſpect to exports and imports. Nevertheleſs, Marſeilles lies under the diſadvantage of having near the entrance into its harbour, a rocky cape of ſome danger and difficulty.

4. Toulon, a modern ſea-port of very great conſequence, become a conſiderable large city from an inconſiderable town, through King Louis the Fourteenth's application in fortifying it and its harbour for the reception and protection of the navy-royal. Its old and its new harbour lie contiguous, and, by means of a canal, ſhips paſs from the one to the other, both of them having an outlet into the ſpacious outer harbour. Its arſenal, eſtabliſhed alſo by that King, has a particular ſtorehouſe for every particular ſhip of war, its guns, cordage, &c. being ſeparately laid up. Here are ſpacious workſhops for blackſmiths, joiners, carpenters, lockſmiths, carvers, &c. Its rope-walk of ſtone is three hundred and twenty toiſes in length, with three arched walks. Its general magazine ſupplies whatever may be wanting in the particular ſtorehouſes, and contains an immenſe quantity of all kinds of ſtores diſpoſed in the greateſt order.

In the government of Dauphiné is,

1. Grenoble, its capital, a populous inland city; but not remarkable either for trade or manufactures.

2. Vienne, an ancient but decayed city, at preſent chiefly memorable for the making of anchors, ſword-blades, and other iron and ſteel manufactures. It has likewiſe a paper manufacture.

3. Orange, the capital of a principality of that name, is not particularly remarkable for trade, nor for manufactures.

The ſmall diſtrict of Avignon lies within the bounds of Languedoc, though near this country; but has for ſeveral centuries been ſubject to the Papal See, governed by a Legate appointed by the Pope.

Avignon, its capital city, on the right of the river Rhone, is a large and handſome place; is walled, but carries on little traffick. It is well filled with churches, chapels, abbies, convents, colleges, &c. it has a court of inquiſition, an archbiſhopric, and an univerſity.

PORTUGAL.

Portugal is conſiderably more temperate than Spain; yet although the ſoil be very fruitful, ſo much is agriculture neglected, that above half the country lies waſte, and they are ſupplied with moſt of their corn by importation. It abounds indeed with good wine, oil, honey, wax, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, figs, raiſins, almonds, cheſnuts, and other excellent fruits; and much ſea ſalt, and ſea and river fiſh. It is in moſt parts mountainous, and in them are contained ſilver, copper, tin, and iron ores: yet no mines are worked in Portugal, as they are ſupplied more eaſily with gold and ſilver from their foreign plantations. Here are many kinds of gems, a beautifully variegated marble, good mill-ſtones, and a remarkable mine of ſaltpetre on a hill near Liſbon.

Dr. Buſching relates, that it was carefully and very accurately computed, in the year 1732, there were in Portugal three thouſand three hundred and forty-four pariſhes, and one million ſeven hundred and forty-two thouſand two hundred and thirty-four lay-perſons, which is but five hundred and twenty-two laity to each pariſh on a medium; beſide about three hundred thouſand eccleſiaſtics of both ſexes: ſo that at moſt there may be two millions of people in Portugal.

Although the Portugueſe are poſſeſſed of ſome fine materials for manufactures, they diſpoſe of them rough to foreigners. They are equally neglectful of arts and handicrafts: yet they manufacture a little linen, and ſome coarſe ſilk and woollen: they have a variety of ſtraw-work; and they candy and preſerve ſeveral kinds of fruits.—The commerce of Portugal, though ſeemingly extenſive, proves of little ſolid benefit toher; as the European nations trading with her engroſs all the productions of her colonies, as well as her own native commodities, as her gold, diamonds, pearls, ſugars, cocoa-nuts, fine red-wood, tobacco, hides, and the drugs of Braſil; her ivory, ebony, ſpices, and drugs of Africa and Eaſt India; in exchange for the almoſt numberleſs manufactures, and the vaſt quantity of corn and ſalt-fiſh, ſupplied by thoſe European nations and by our own North American colonies.

Portugal in her own ſhipping has but little trade with other European nations: the principal uſe ſhe makes of them being the carrying of ſuch great quantities of negroes as there is a conſtant demand for from her noble colony of Braſil, and ſome of her ſhipping are alſo ſent to her once flouriſhing ones in the Eaſt Indies, though now of ſmall importance to her. But from Braſil it is computed, that the King's fifth of gold alone, amounts to three hundred thouſand pounds ſterling annually, or or one year with another; all the gold of that colony coming little ſhort of two millions ſterling yearly.

Her beſt cities and towns, beginning northward from Gallicia, are,

1. Viana, a ſtrong and well-built ſea-port, containing about ſeven thouſand inhabitants; but its harbour is only proper for the admiſſion of ſmall veſſels.

2. Porto, or Oporto, on the river Douro, is a large trading city; but there is a bar at its harbour which is ſomewhat dangerous and difficult, on account of ſome ſandbanks and rocks. In opulence, populouſneſs, commerce, and beauty, it is the next city to Liſbon, containing, according to Dr. Buſching, above twenty thouſand ſeven hundred inhabitants; yet others make it conſiderably larger, even ſo far as to amount to fifty thouſand inhabitants. It is here the trade to England for Portugal wines chiefly centers, to the amount of a great many thouſand tons annually.

3. Braga is an inland city, containing about twelve thouſand three hundred inhabitants, an ancient archiepiſcopal cathedral, and four pariſh churches, beſide convents.

4. Coimbra, a pretty inland city and univerſity, on the river Mondega, having nine pariſh churches, and eleven thouſand nine hundred inhabitants.

5. Liſbon city, on the Tagus, in latitude thirty-eight degrees, twenty-five minutes, according to Dr. Buſching does not, at moſt, exceed one hundred and fifty thouſand inhabitants, although others think the number amounts to two hundred thouſand. The air here is temperate and healthy. It had in it many fine palaces, and other fair public and private edifices, but moſt of them were overthrown in the calamitous earthquake in the year 1755.

Its trade, and the vaſt navigation to and from it are ſo very conſiderable, that its cuſtom-houſe is the principal ſource of the King's European revenues. Here is the grand magazine of all the merchandize which the Portugueſe import from their foreign colonies. This harbour is extremely ſpacious, deep, ſecure, and convenient, and has two entrances. The city is walled, having thereon ſeventy-ſeven towers and thirty-ſix gates. In its center, on one of its hills, ſtands a citadel, commanding the whole city. Cloſe by the ſea, at the diſtance of three Portugueſe miles from the city, both the entrances to the harbour are defended by two forts, the one named St. Julian, on a rock in the ſea, the other, named Bogio, to the ſouth, is built on piles on a ſand-bank. Two miles from St. Julian, and one from Liſbon, ſtands the fort of Belem, which commands the entrance into the city, and where all ſhips coming up the Tagus muſt ſtop and give an account of themſelves: and directly oppoſite, on the ſouth ſide, ſtands the fort of St. Sebaſtian, on the angle of a mountain, all along which, a little way on the other ſide of the city, the paſſage is defended from the beginning of the harbour by a chain of twelve forts.

6. Abrantes, a finely ſituated and fortified town, higher up the Tagus, contains about three thouſand five hundred inhabitants. The country between Liſbon and this town yields a moſt delicious proſpect, is extremely fertile, and is particularly famous for the excellence of its peaches.

7. Santarem, on the Tagus, lies in a delightful plain, containing a citadel, thirteen churches, and as many convents; but Dr. Buſching, from whom we have this account, does not tell us the number of its inhabitants.

8. Setuval, commonly called St. Ubes by the Engliſh and Dutch, is a very ſtrong town, on a ſmall bay of the ocean, with a harbour capable of ſhips of any burden. It has four churches and ten convents, and a very large ſalt-office; this place being famous for ſupplying immenſe quantities of ſalt to foreign nations.

9. Evora is an inland city with an univerſity; having about twelve thouſand inhabitants, five churches and ſeveral hoſpitals and convents.

10. Eſtremos, a ſtrong town, having about ſix thouſand five hundred inhabitants, three churches, ſix convents, and an hoſpital.

11. Beja has ſix thouſand two hundred inhabitants, four churches, ſeven convents, and an hoſpital.

12. Elvas, a ſtrong frontier town, has four churches, ſeven convents, and an hoſpital.

13. Olivença, another frontier town, having two churches, one convent, and an hoſpital.

In the little kingdom of Algarva, there are vaſt quantities of wine, oil, corn, almonds, figs, and other fruits.

1. Lagos is a ſtrong port town of about two thouſand ſix hundred inhabitants, two churches, and four convents.

2. Tavira, another ſtrong ſea-port of four thouſand ſeven hundred inhabitants, two churches, and five convents.

3. Faro, a modern fortification and ſea-port of four thouſand five hundred inhabitants, two churches, four convents, and an hoſpital. It is ſeparated by an arm of the ſea from Cape St. Maries.

PORTUGAL'S EUROPEAN ISLANDS, *viz.*

In the Atlantic Ocean, though, ſtrictly ſpeaking, they are not properly within the bounds uſually aſſignedto Europ e, though near it, are the two iſles of

I. Porto Santo; it is five Portugueſe miles in length and two in breadth, its principal town of the ſame name containing about ſix hundred inhabitants.

II. Madeira, near the other, is eighteen Portugueſe miles in length and about four in breadth.—Its principal town is Funchal. Here is a conſiderable trade from ſeveral nations for its excellent wines; great quantities whereof are ſent to our Weſt India colonies, and alſo much is conſumed in England; the original plants of which were brought from the iſle of Candia. This iſle is well defended by forts.

III. The Azores, or Tercera Iſles, called alſo the Weſtern Iſles, are nine in number, viz.

1. Santa Maria, or St. Maries, has a ſmall town named Porto.

2. St. Michael, having two principal harbours, named Ponta del Gada and Villafranca; being the beſt peopled of all theſe iſlands, containing about fifty thouſand inhabitants, and great plenty of corn, millet, and wine.—Ponta del Gada, its chief town, has an open harbour defended by a fort; and has three churches and ſeven convents.—Villafranca town has two pariſh churches and two convents.—Here are alſo four other pretty good towns.

3. Terceira has Angra for its chief town. Dr. Buſching calls it a populous city, well fortified with handſome broad ſtreets; and it contains a cathedral, five pariſh-churches, a poor-houſe, an hoſpital, and eight convents.—There are alſo ſome other towns in this iſland.

4. St. George has three or four ſmall villages or towns in it.

5. Gracioſa has two ſmall towns in it.

6. Fayal's chief town is Villa de Horta.—This iſle gives name to ſome of the beſt wine of theſe iſles.

7. Pico is viſible at a great diſtance, by reaſon of its high mountain, ſaid to be three miles in height. It carries on a great trade in its excellent wines; the principal port-town being Villa das Lagens. Here is alſo a trade in cedar wood, and in a certain red wood highly prized.

8. Flores Iſle has three roads, and two villas or towns.

9. Corvo is a ſmall iſle; has but one church and two ſmall harbours.

Theſe iſles could not be ranked with any other quarter of the globe ſo properly as that of Europe, although they lie ſome hundred miles weſt from the continent of Europe, and directly weſt from Portugal.

SPAIN.

SPAIN.

Spain, through a neglect of tillage, has a ſcarcity of corn, though anciently it was famous for a great plenty of it. It however abounds in the moſt delicious fruits, as peaches, olives, figs, lemons, oranges, pomegranates, almonds, cheſnuts, pears, &c. And her wines, more eſpecially her Sacks, are in great eſteem by foreign nations; ſo that, according to Dr. Buſching, the yearly value of the wines, raiſins, &c. exported from the country about Malaga alone, amounts to a million and a half of piaſtres (an imaginary or ideal coin worth three ſhillings and ſeven pence ſterling) or two hundred and ſixty-eight thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty pounds ſterling. Some parts of Spain produce ſugar canes, the beſt of ſaffron and honey, ſilk in great abundance; ſalt, eſpecially towards the ſea coaſts, is in ſo great plenty that conſiderable quantities of it are exported. Such vaſt flocks of ſheep are ſeen, that Uſtariz, a late famous politico-commercial Spaniſh author, computes the number of ſhepherds in Spain to amount to forty thouſand. The beſt of their very fine wool is that of Old Caſtile. They have fine horſes and many mules; but few black cattle. The mountains of Spain yield much ſhip-timber; and tar and pitch are made in Arragon and Catalonia. Thoſe mountains are by ancient authors ſaid to be very rich in gold and ſilver; but the Spaniards are rather inclined to have thoſe precious metals from America than to take the trouble of ſearching for them at home. Yet it ſeems their iron mines are worked with great ſkill and ſucceſs. They have likewiſe lead, tin, cinnabar, quickſilver, alum, vitriol, copperas, lapis calaminaris, chryſtal, diamonds, amethyſts, &c.

Spain, according to Uſtariz, contains about ſeven millions and a half of people, though others think not near ſo many, and could well ſupport as many more, were it properly cultivated.—One of the principal cauſes of the thinneſs of people in the fineſt parts of Spain, as in both Caſtiles, &c. is the total decay of handicrafts and manufactures, which formerly flouriſhed therein; alſo to the number of perſons in convents reſtrained from propagation, amounting to two hundred thouſand, beſide the ſecular clergy, amounting to fifty thouſand more. The heavy taxes Uſtariz aſſigns as another cauſe thereof: whilſt the mountainous parts of Gallicia, Aſturias, Biſcay, Navarre, and Burgos, are ſtill the beſt peopled countries of Spain, even although from them were ſent the greateſt number of people who firſt planted Spaniſh America. The bulk of the Spaniſh people are very poor and lazy, though living in ſo improvable a country. Other cauſes of the great poverty of Spain are,

Firſt, Their draining their country of ſo much money for corn, fiſh, and many other things from foreign countries.

Secondly, The inſatiable avarice of the clergy, to whom the people are mere ſlaves.

Thirdly, Their inquiſition.

Fourthly, Their diſdaining to ſtoop to handicrafts and trades, the greateſt part of which are in the hands of the French, who are very numerous in Spain. Yet they are not without ſome manufactures both of ſilk and wool: ſome of which, however, after having been ſet on foot at a great expence, have afterwards been ruined by the inquiſition and the monks.

Its moſt conſiderable cities and towns, beginning from the north ſide in Gallicia, are,

1. Ferrol, a handſome ſea port in Gallicia, having a fine harbour where part of the royal navy is uſually built and ſtationed.

2. Compoſtella, its capital, is no otherwiſe eminent than for many fine churches and convents, and very little commerce.

In Aſturias, St. Andero has a large and well fortified harbour; and its neighbourhood abounds with fine fruits and wine.

In Biſcay, Bilboa is a famous city, on the river Nervio, has a fine harbour, very much frequented by foreign ſhipping. It is large and well built, carrying on a great trade in iron, wool, military weapons, ſaffron, and cheſnuts; and has very cheap proviſions.

In Guipuſco is the ſtrong and fine ſea port of St. Sebaſtian, having neat and fine churches, convents, and ſtreets. It carries on a conſiderable trade in iron, ſteel, and wool; and, in the year 1728, a company was eſtabliſhed here, for trading in Cacao to the Caraccas, in America.

2, Vitoria, though an inland town in this province, has a great trade in iron and ſteel, wine, wool, and fine ſword-blades; and therefore is much frequented.

In the kingdom of Leon, entirely an inland country, there are ſcarcely any commercial towns. Leon, its capital, is an ancient, declining city. And Salamanca, though large and populous, is principally famous for its univerſity, the moſt eminent of any in Spain, conſiſting of twenty-five colleges.

Of Eſtremadura, alſo an inland province, next the frontiers of Portugal, it may be ſaid, that the cities and towns of Albuquerque, Badajos, Merida, Alcantara, and Guadaloup, with their adjacent countries, abound in excellent wool, wine, and fine fruits; and Albuquerque is ſaid to have ſome woollen manufactures.

Andaluſia is the fineſt province of Spain. It abounds in wines, fine fruits, oil, vaſt quantities of ſilk, grain, honey, ſugar, horſes, metals, &c. and contains the following eminent and mercantile places, viz.

1. Seville, its capital, ſeated on the river Guadalquivir, is the largeſt city in Spain, after Madrid. It carries on a large commerce, although in the year 1717, its famous Contractation Houſe, or Office for the commerce of the Spaniſh American colonies, was removed to Cadiz, and ſtill remains there. Dr. Buſching relates, that Seville, and its once flouriſhing manufactures have very much dwindled ſince that period; ſo that out of ſixteen thouſand artificers in wool and ſilk, ſcarce four hundred remain there at preſent. This city and its diſtrict are ſaid to have been more populous when ſubject to the Moors than at preſent. It, however, contains twenty-nine churches, ſeventy-four monaſteries, twenty-four hoſpitals, and near as many ſquares or piazzas, an exchange for merchants, and an univerſity. And its neighbourhood abounds in grain, wines, and fine fruits, and much oil is made here.

2. St. Lucar de Barrameda is a well built but declining town, at the mouth of the river Guadalquivir, where it has a good harbour. Its principal trade is in ſalt.

3. Xeres, which we commonly pronounce Sherry, is a large town. Its wines, with us called Sherries, are very much eſteemed, and exported to foreign parts: and its horſes are alſo much prized.

4. Port St. Mary's enjoys a flouriſhing trade; it lies at the mouth of the little river Guadalete, directly oppoſite to Cadiz, and exceeds it in compaſs of ground, though ſcarcely containing eight thouſand people. Here reſide, in peaceable times, great numbers of Engliſh, French, Dutch, Genoeſe, &c. merchants. Its harbour is the rendezvous of ſome of the Spaniſh gallies; and here are made great quantities of ſalt.

5. Cadiz, a moſt eminent commercial city, ſtands on an iſland, ſeparated from the continent of Andaluſia by a very narrow arm of the ſea, over which a fortified bridge joins it to the ſaid continent. It is of a moderately large circumference, and contains thirteen convents, though it has properly but one church, which is its cathedral, and yet its ſettled inhabitants are computed at forty thouſand. Moſt of its ſtreets are narrow, crooked, dirty, and ill-paved; houſe rents and proviſions are dear, and good water very ſcarce. Before and at the arrival of the American flota, Cadiz is always

ways crouded with ſtrangers, to the number, as it is ſaid, of fifty thouſand, reſorting thither on account of commerce, and occaſioning an extraordinary circulation of money and expence. Cadiz is the proper center of the whole Spaniſh American commerce. Hither other European nations ſend their merchandize, to be ſhipped off in Spaniſh bottoms for America, ſheltered, or, as our old Engliſh phraſe has it, coloured, under the names of Spaniſh factors. Thoſe foreign nations have here their and agents correſpondents, and the conſuls of thoſe nations make a conſiderable figure. Cadiz has been ſaid to have the fineſt ſtorehouſes and magazines for commerce of any city in Europe; and to it the flota and galeons regularly import the treaſures of Spaniſh America.

The proper Spaniſh merchandize exported from Cadiz to America are of no great value; but the duty on the foreign merchandize ſent thither would yield a great revenue, and conſequently the profits of merchants and their agents would ſink, were it not for the many fraudulent practices for eluding thoſe duties. The entrance into the Bay and Harbour of Cadiz is well defended by Fort Matagorda, on the eaſt or continent ſide, running out on a promontory, and by Fort Puntal, over againſt it, alſo running out on a point from the iſland. The Spaniards uſually call thoſe two forts the Puntal, between which the ſea is ſaid to be but five hundred fathoms wide: and when an enemy's fleet approaches Cadiz, and thereupon the galeons, &c. are ſaid to be placed behind the Puntals, it is thereby meant that they are then out of danger from an attack or aſſault.

6. The town of Gibraltar is not ſo much to be conſidered, either for its extent or beauty, as for its ſtrength and ſituation, which renders it one of the keys of Spain. And therefore the crown of Great Britain has continued to improve and enlarge its fortifications ever ſince it came under its power, in the year 1704, to the preſent moment.

7. Cordova, or Corduba, alſo in Andaluſia, is a large and beautiful inland city, ſtanding on the river Guadalquivir, once the capital of a Mooriſh kingdom of that name. It ſtills enjoys a great trade, though not populous in proportion to its large extent, as having vineyards and gardens within its circuit. The adjacent mountains are covered with vineyards and plantations of lemons, oranges, figs, and olives; which, when in bloſſom, diffuſe a fragrance all over the country.

8. Jaen was likewiſe the capital of a ſmall Mooriſh kingdom of that name. It is a populous inland city, having ſome fine churches and convents: and its neighbourhood has plenty of corn, wine, oil, fruits, and ſilk.

Granada, the lateſt kingdom of the Moors of Spain, is extremely pleaſant, healthy, populous, and fruitful, having an exuberancy of corn, wine, oil, ſugar, ſilk, flax, hemp, and excellent fruits; ſuch as pomegranates, citrons, lemons, oranges, olives, capers, figs, almonds, and raiſins of two kinds, viz. thoſe dried by the ſun on the branches, and thoſe dipped in a lye made of the aſhes of the burnt branches, and afterward dried in the ſun. Here alſo are produced galls, dates, ſhumack, &c.

1. Granada, once its auguſt capital city, is ſtill one of the largeſt in Spain; and, though an inland city, carries on a great trade in ſilk.

2. Malaga is a fine populous city, and an eminent ſea-port, ſuitable to its extenſive commerce. Its principal merchandize for exportation conſiſts in Sack and other wines, wool, olives, oil, and raiſins.

3. Almeria is a maritime city, and its neighbourhood is fertile in fruits and oils.

Murcia was once a ſmall Mooriſh kingdom. It is mountainous, yet fertile, like Granada, in ſugar, honey, ſilk, rice, ſalt, and fine fruits.

1. Carthagena has one of the beſt harbours of Spain, but is nevertheleſs much declined from its priſtine grandeur: yet here are many mines of alum, and alſo ſome diamonds, rubies, and other gems.

2. Murcia, the capital of this province, is a large, well-built, and populous inland city.

Valencia was once alſo a Mooriſh kingdom, along the ſhore of the Mediterranean Sea. It abounds in ſalt, rice, flax, ſilk, hemp, honey, and ſugar.

1. Valencia, its capital, is a pleaſant, large, beautiful, and populous maritime city, which carries on a conſiderable commerce, more eſpecially in almonds, for which fruit there is always a great demand every where.

2. Alicant, a ſea-port, famous for its red and white wines, of which very much is exported to many foreign parts; as there alſo is of its raiſins and other dried fruits, aniſeed, &c.

3. 4. 5. Altea, Denia, Gandia, are ſmall ſea-port towns, trading in wines, ſilk, flax, honey, and raiſins.

The kingdom of Caſtile, though an inland country, is the principal and moſt opulent province of Spain. It is uſually diſtinguiſhed into Old and New Caſtile.

Old Caſtile is ſo termed for having been recovered from the Moors prior to New Caſtile, north of the other. Its wine is eſteemed excellent, and its numerous flocks of ſheep produce the fineſt wool in Spain; moſtly carried to Bilboa, for exportation to foreign parts. Its beſt towns are,

1. Valladolid, a large, beautiful, and populous city, being one of the ſtatelieſt in Spain; having fine ſtreets, ſplendid palaces, ſpacious ſquares, piazzas, fountains, and ſtately churches, a royal palace, an univerſity, and about ſeventy convents.

2. Burgos, its capital city, is large, though irregular, and has many fine ſquares, palaces, churches, convents, and hoſpitals.

3. Segovia, a fine, large, and populous city; having the beſt woollen cloth manufacture in all Spain, as well as the fineſt wool in its neighbourhood; of which much is exported. It has alſo a paper manufacture.

4. Avila, a moderately large city, producing excellent grapes and other fruits, and alſo ſome manufactures.

New Caſtile has ſometimes been called the kingdom of Toledo, lying ſouth of Old Caſtile, and is the center of the monarchy of Spain. It is a very fruitful and healthy country.

1. Madrid, its capital and that of all Spain, and though an open place, and of little account till King Philip the Second, made it his conſtant reſidence; yet it is become very large, and is adorned with fine ſquares, ſtreets, palaces, churches, convents, and hoſpitals: but it is, nevertheleſs, by no means a neat and cleanly place. It ſtands on the little river Manſanares. The inhabitants are computed to amount to one hundred and fifty thouſand. Proviſions of all kinds are here both reaſonable and excellent; and the conſtant reſidence of the court occaſions a briſk trade and circulation of money.

2. Toledo, an ancient, populous, and fortified city, on the river Tagus, has ſtately public and private edifices, many fine churches, ſeventeen ſquares, and thirty-eight convents, &c. Toledo has been long famous for its fine ſword-blades, and alſo carries on a great trade in wool, ſilk, and ſtuffs.

3. Guadalaxara is no very great place, but the adjacent country is fertile; which conſideration probably induced the Duke de Riperda to ſet up ſeveral manufactures of woollen cloths and ſtuffs, which then ſeemed promiſing; yet on his diſgrace, in the year 1726, they fell to decay. The kingdom of Spain has for many years been governed by foreign intereſts, to the infinite detriment of the true intereſt of the public.

Spaniſh or Upper Navarre is divided from French Navarre by the Pyrenean Mountains, amongſt which mountains the greateſt part of it is ſituated, and therefore its principal wealth conſiſts in grazing.

1. Pam-

1. Pampelona, its capital, is a place of little commerce; is of a tolerable magnitude, has an univerſity, and ſeveral eccleſiaſtical edifices. It is ſeated in a plain, near the Pyrenean mountains.

2. Tafalla, a city and univerſity; has good wine in its neighbourhood.

3. 4. 5. Olita, formerly the reſidence of the Kings of Navarre, is a pretty town in a fruitful country; and Tudela and Eſtella are likewiſe pretty towns.

Arragon, formerly a kingdom, likewiſe joins the Pyrenean mountains. Much of it is dry and barren, and ſome parts uninhabited; yet, where watered by rivers and ſprings, it produces corn, wine, oil, flax, fruits, and ſaffron.

1. Saragoſſa, its capital, ſtands in a fertile plain, on the river Ebro. It is a large and handſome city, containing ſeventeen large churches, fourteen convents, an univerſity, and a citadel. It enjoys a very conſiderable trade, and is inhabited by many perſons of quality.

2. Calatayud is a good town at the end of a charming valley, abounding in grain, wine, oil, and other fruits. The other towns are inconſiderable.

The fine principality of Catalonia is ſeparated from France by the Pyrenean mountains; and, though mountainous, has many delicious plains, ſupplying plenty of wine, grain, oil, fruits, flax, hemp, marble, cryſtal, alabaſter, jaſper, amethyſts: alſo gold, ſilver, tin, lead, iron, alum, vitriol, and ſalt. Yet it has very little copper, neither has it any ſugar-canes, though other provinces of Spain produce them. It is one of the moſt populous provinces of the kingdom.

1. Barcelona, its capital, is a large, ſtrong, and noble ſea-port, adorned with an univerſity, and many fine churches, convents, and ſquares; has a conſiderable commerce in wines, fruits, &c. and is thought to contain about one hundred thouſand people.

2. Tortoſa is a large fortified city and an univerſity, on the Ebro, with many churches and convents, and its neighbourhood abounds in grain, ſilk, and fruits.

3. Tarragona has an univerſity, and a good trade, though but an indifferent harbour. Its neighbourhood yields corn, oil, flax, and very good wine.

4. Girona, a fortified inland city; has a conſiderable inland commerce.

The Balearic and Pityuſæ iſles, in the Mediterranean Sea, viz. the four iſles of Majorca, Minorca, Iviça, and Formentera, formerly compoſed the kingdom of Majorca. This laſt-named iſland abounds in corn, wine, oil, ſaffron, wool, honey, horſes, &c.

Majorca, its capital, is large, has ſtately buildings, twenty-two churches, and about ten thouſand inhabitants.

Minorca Iſle has a barren ſoil, though ſome good wine, of which, when it had the Engliſh for their cuſtomers, Dr. Buſching thinks, they made annually twenty-ſeven thouſand pounds ſterling. Here is alſo ſome wool, cotton, ſalt, capers: but its people, who are in number about twenty-ſeven thouſand, (having in all three thouſand and eighty-eight houſes) are not induſtrious, and therefore are ſupplied with their principal neceſſaries from foreign parts, viz. corn, beef, brandy, linen, ſtuffs, &c. to the value, he thinks, of about ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling annually.

1. Cittadella, its capital, has about ſix hundred houſes: and,

2. The little trading town of Mahon is defended by the ſtrong fort of St. Philip.

The Pityuſæ Iſles, ſo called by the Greeks, from their multitude of pine-trees, are,

1. Iviça, which is but little cultivated, becauſe moſt of its people are employed in the ſalt trade, as more gainful. Iviça, its capital, however, has a modern fortification.

2. Formentera Iſle was formerly well inhabited, but is now quite deſerted, becauſe of the Barbary corſairs continually ſwarming about it.

ITALY.

In Italy, ſays Dr. Buſching, all materials for enjoyment, and a variety of delicacies, which lie ſcattered here and there in other countries, we here meet with in the utmoſt profuſion.—Corn, rich wines, the choiceſt fruits, ſuch as oranges, citrons, lemons, olives, pomegranates, almonds, raiſins, white mulberry trees, beyond number, for producing of ſilk; ſugar, alabaſter, jaſper, iron, gold, ſilver, ſulphur, alum; with tame and wild beaſts. On this account Italy is juſtly ſtiled, The Parent of Plenty,—The Source of earthly Felicity,—The Pride of our Globe,—The Garden of Europe,—The Beauty of the World,—and even a Microcoſm within itſelf. Yet all its delicacies are not originally natives. The fruit-trees, the produce whereof the Latins called *Mala*, were tranſplanted to Italy after the conqueſts of the Romans in Africa, Greece, Aſia Minor, and Syria.—Apricots, or abricots, came from Epirus, and were called *Mala Epirotica.*—Peaches, *Mala Perſica*, from Perſia.—Citrons were called *Mala Medica*, from Media.—Pomegranates, *Mala Punica*, from Carthage.—And cheſnuts, from the town of Caſtania, in the diſtrict of Magneſia, in Macedonia.—The beſt pears came from Alexandria, Numidia, Greece, and Numantia.—The firſt plumbs were brought from Armenia and Syria, eſpecially from Damaſcus, from whence the name of Damaſcens, retained by us even at this day.—Lucius Lucullus was the firſt that introduced cherry-trees from Pontus, which ſoon after became the growth of all other countries throughout Europe. Yet in Italy there is no ſmall difference in regard to the fertility, wholeſomeneſs, and pleaſantneſs of its different provinces; in ſome of which the number of the inhabitants is far from being ſufficient for the culture and improvement of the fruitful ſoil, more eſpecially in the Papal territories, &c. where there is not a town of any conſequence wherein the eccleſiaſtics make not one half, or at leaſt one third of the inhabitants.

SAVOY, PIEDMONT, AND SARDINIA.

To begin with that part of Italy which borders on France, or the King of Sardinia's ſubjects of Piedmont, Savoy, &c. on the continent, Mr. Keyſler thinks they exceed two millions of people.

The dutchy of Savoy is ſo barren, rocky and mountainous, that there are very few materials in it for commerce, ſome wine excepted. Chambery, its capital, is of a moderate ſize, where many of the Savoyard nobility reſide. The other towns are more inſignificant, and have no trade.

Piedmont is a fine country, abounding in corn, a variety of wines, fruits, hemp, cattle, in which laſt they have a very profitable trade: but the moſt advantageous production of this country is ſilk, which is reckoned the very beſt in all Italy.

1. Turin, its capital, is a moſt beautiful and regular city, and contains many fine palaces, piazzas, ſtreets, churches, convents, and an univerſity; and its inhabitants may amount to between fifty and ſixty thouſand. It ſtands on the fine river Po, in a moſt pleaſant country.
2. Nice is a ſea-port of ſome commerce, but its harbour does not admit of large ſhipping.
3. Oneglia is a fortified ſea-port, having a very good oil trade.
4. Villa Franca is an inconſiderable ſea-port town.
5. Aſti is a large fortified town, in a fertile valley.

Montferrat dutchy belongs to the King of Sardinia, and joins to Piedmont; it abounds in corn, in excellent Muſcadine wine, and contains about two hundred towns and caſtles.

Caſal, its capital, lies on the Po, in a fertile country, and is very ſtrong.

N. B. About, and ſince the year 1703, ſeveral diſtricts, towns, and caſtles have, by particular conventions, been yielded by the Houſe of Auſtria to that of Savoy, which formerly belonged to the dutchy of Milan.

The

The iſland and kingdom of Sardinia is not very profitable, in point of revenue, to the Houſe of Savoy; as, according to Dr. Buſching, after defraying the expence of its civil and military eſtabliſhment, the remainder does not much exceed one hundred thouſand livres. It yields plenty of corn and wine; but, by reaſon of its many moraſſes, and the mountains on the north ſide of it, the air is eſteemed unwholeſome.

Cagliari, its capital, has an univerſity and an archbiſhopric, and is the reſidence of the viceroy.—It is a ſea-port, though not conſiderable for commerce. On the coaſt of this iſland, at ſeveral ſmall ſea-ports, there is a great coral fiſhery.

AUSTRIAN LOMBARDY, MILAN, MANTUA, *&c. &c.*

The Auſtrian dominions in Lombardy conſiſt only at preſent of ſuch part of the dutchy of Milan as has not been, at different times, yielded to the Houſe of Savoy, and alſo of the entire dutchy of Mantua.

The dutchy of Milan is moſt fertile in a variety of excellent productions. Corn, rice, excellent wines, and the fineſt of cheeſe, improperly called Parmeſan, which is uſed all over Italy. Its paſtures are exceeding rich, famous for breeding of cattle, and producing much milk. The trade of the Milaneſe, and particularly of the vaſt city of Milan, is very conſiderable. A great quantity of cloth, ſilk, and linen are here manufactured, and moſtly uſed at home; but their fine ſilk-ſtockings, gloves, and handkerchiefs are uſually exported. Milan is famous for curious works in ſteel, cryſtal, agate, hyacinths, and other gems; and the country every where abounds with ingenious artificers.—It is ſo extremely rich and fertile, as to have formerly yielded to the King of Spain a revenue of two millions of dollars. Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, ſtates its modern revenue to be about three hundred thouſand pounds ſterling.

The city of Milan is ten Italian miles in circumference, containing, according to Dr. Buſching, two hundred and fifty thouſand inhabitants; yet Mr. Keyſler, an author likewiſe of good credit, computes them to be about three hundred thouſand. It contains two hundred and thirty churches, beſide its grand cathedral, ninety convents, one hundred chapels for religious fraternities, and one hundred and twenty ſchools.

Pavia, (once the reſidence of the Kings of the Lombards, though ſince much decayed) Como, Lodi, and Cremona, more eſpecially the laſt, which is five miles in circuit, are very conſiderable cities; full of churches and convents, having fine buildings, and ſpacious ſtreets and ſquares, though neither rich nor populous.

Mantua, the capital city of the dutchy of that name, is a fine and very ſtrong place; crouded with churches, convents, and hoſpitals. It abounds in corn, flax, cattle, and fruits, with ſome wine:—But although it was ſaid to contain formerly fifty thouſand inhabitants, yet, ſince it has no longer any court, Dr. Buſching thinks they have dwindled to about ſixteen thouſand; of which number are about five thouſand Jews. Its general commerce in ſilk and other manufactures, formerly ſo conſiderable, is now much decreaſed, and its ducal palaces are going to ruin. There are no other conſiderable towns in this dutchy.

The dominions of the Infant of Spain are, the dutchies of Parma and Placentia, lying eaſt and ſouth of the Milaneſe. They have a moſt fertile ſoil in olives, truffles, cheſnuts, and other fine fruits, rich paſtures, and excellent cattle; though the celebrated Parmeſan cheeſe is no longer made here, but in the dutchy of Milan, and about Bologna, and other parts: yet here are very beneficial ſalt-works, as well as copper and iron mines.

1. Parma is a large and populous city. In it ſilk is a great material for commerce, of which much is exported, eſpecially in ſilk-ſtockings.

2. Placentia, or Placenza, is likewiſe a large city, crouded with churches and convents.

3. Guaſtalla is a ſmall fortified town; though neither it, nor any other place in the little dutchy of that name, are any way eminent for commerce.

In the ſtates of the Duke of Modena are plenty of fine corn, with excellent wine and fruits.

Modena is a moderately large and populous city; and Reggio and Mirandola are ſmall but handſome and ſtrong towns, of which we can ſay nothing more particular.

There are in upper Italy ſeveral ſmall ſovereign principalities, as Maſſa, Monaco, and Maſſerano; but they are very inconſiderable: and although they abound in oranges, Lemons, and other fine fruits, they are no way remarkable for commerce.

In Italy are three independent republics, viz.

GENOA.

The republic of Genoa is about one hundred and fifty Engliſh miles in length, along the coaſt of the Mediterranean Sea, but of a ſmall breadth; and, being in many parts rocky, it is ſupplied with corn from other countries: yet it produces oils, good wines, and excellent fruits; ſuch as lemons, oranges, pomegranates, olives, figs, almonds; alſo large plantations of mulberry-trees, for ſilk-worms. It alſo exports ſalt, marble, Parmeſan cheeſe, and anchovies. The Genoeſe manufactures have loſt much of their ancient reputation; yet they ſtill produce fine velvets, pluſh, fuſtian, damaſks, and other ſilk fabrics, being ſupplied with much raw-ſilk from Sicily; gold and ſilver tiſſues, laces, gloves, though much inferior to thoſe of the Netherlands and France; it has alſo the fineſt paper.

1. Genoa, its capital city, is a moſt magnificent place; in circuit about ten Italian miles, including its fortifications. It contains thirty-ſeven pariſh churches, twenty collegiate churches, ſeventeen convents, and two large hoſpitals. Two of its principal ſtreets conſiſt entirely of fine marble palaces. Its inhabitants may amount to one hundred and fifty thouſand, whoſe principal manufactures are thoſe above-mentioned, and they alſo trade much in drugs, &c. from the Levant; with which great commercial materials a very briſk trade is carried on, more eſpecially with Spain. Hither the ſhipping of moſt European nations conſtantly reſort, in great numbers, particularly thoſe of England, Holland, and France. Yet it is well known, that Genoa is greatly fallen from the formidable figure its naval power anciently made, it being now reduced ſo low as ſix gallies, the complement of the largeſt of which, according to the judicious Mr. Keyſler, is but one hundred ſoldiers, and three hundred and twenty rowers; the uſe of which, at this time, is principally to fetch corn from Naples and Sicily, and to give their ladies an airing. This decayed city, however, is eminent for having ſome of the richeſt bankers in all Europe, and for its profitable dealings in exchange.

2. Savona is, next to Genoa, the beſt place of this republic on the continent: it is conſiderably large, and its harbour is well defended; yet, in the year 1745, ſixteen French and Spaniſh veſſels, laden with military ſtores, were there ſunk by the Engliſh bombs.

3. Finale, a ſtrong and conſiderable ſea-port, with a convenient harbour. And along the coaſt the republic has ſundry other ſmall towns and ſea-ports, ſome of which have good harbours, though very little commerce.

The iſland of Corſica, in the Mediterranean Sea, (oppoſite to Genoa, to which it belonged before it was ceded by that republic to France, in 1769) is about one hundred Engliſh miles in length, and about forty in breadth. It is very mountainous, but its plains and valleys produce corn, indifferent

ferent wine, fruits, much olive-oil, alum, iron, ſalt-works, and a coral fiſhery. The unhealthineſs of its air occaſions its not being very populous: for, by the once famous Baron Theodore's calculation, in the year 1736, its whole people amounted only to one hundred and twenty thouſand. It was anciently a ſmall kingdom, and had long been poſſeſſed by the republic of Genoa: but that ſtate's heavy taxes, and the other grievances complained of by the Corſicans, kept the majority of them, for a long time, in a ſtate of rebellion; till at length tranquillity was ſecured by the ceſſion of the iſland to France, as has been already mentioned. Its principal town and ſea-port is Baſtia.

VENICE.

The famous republic of Venice is compoſed of ſeveral fine provinces on the continent of Italy, and of ſome iſles in the Adriatic Sea; but its principal ſtrength and glory is its maiden capital city of Venice, ſeated on ſeventy-two or more iſles, at the bottom of the north end of the Adriatic Sea; it is divided from the continent by a laguna, or marſhy lake, of five Italian miles in breadth, too ſhallow for large ſhips to navigate; yet, by the prudent attention of the republic, it is prevented from becoming part of the continent, as well as from being ever frozen, ſo as to bear an army on it in winter. Toward the ſea, the acceſs to this wonderful city is likewiſe difficult; but the ſafe and navigable parts are indicated by piles; which, at the approach of an enemy's fleet can be cut away. And, as her ſhips of war and galleys may be fitted out very expeditiouſly from her noble dock yard, containing always vaſt quantities of naval ſtores, it is evident that the city, being thus ſecure from any attempt, either by land or water, is ſufficiently ſtrong, though without walls or other fortifications.

Over its ſeveral canals are laid four hundred and fifty (or, as ſome ſay, upwards of five hundred) bridges, greater and ſmaller; the majority of them being of ſtone. The city contains ſeventy pariſh churches, eighty convents, ſeventeen hoſpitals, fifty-three ſquares, one hundred and ſixty-five marble and twenty-three brazen ſtatues. Its buildings are all ſtone, though the greater part of them make but a mean figure. Yet St. Mark's ſquare, and ſeveral ſtately marble palaces bordering on the great canal running through the whole city are very fine, though moſt of them of gothic architecture. Its inhabitants have, by ſome, been computed to amount to two hundred thouſand, though others think not ſo many. Its trade in cloth is ſtill conſiderable, more eſpecially of ſcarlet: ſilk manufactures, gold and ſilver ſtuffs, are here manufactured, and though not ſo beautiful as thoſe of France, they have a very good market in the Levant. Its brocatellas, a kind of ſtuff like brocade, made of coarſe ſilk, are much uſed for carpets. Its manufacture of looking-glaſſes, and other fine plate glaſs, is ſtill conſiderable.

Of the famous bank of Venice, which was the firſt of any erected in Europe; we have ſufficiently treated in the body of our work. Its ſo much celebrated arſenal, docks, &c. being two and a half Italian miles in circuit, containing a great variety of edifices, for every thing requiſite for a land or ſea armament, where alſo lie the ſhips of war, galleys, &c. and the Bucentauro; is now far excelled by thoſe of England, Holland, and France.

There are ſeveral iſles near the city, which are fortified for its defence, viz. Murano, Lido, Malmocco, Paleſtrina, Chiozza, &c. upon which ſome good towns are built. On the Venetian continent, one of the fineſt countries upon earth, are many good cities, as

1. Padua, an ancient and large city and univerſity, containing above forty thouſand inhabitants, twenty-ſix pariſh churches, forty-one convents, four good hoſpitals, and many fine

palaces. Here is a woollen manufacture, and its neighbourhood yields excellent wines, oil, and fruits.

2. Rovigo, a large but declining city.

3 Verona, a very large city, through which the river Adige runs, over which are four ſtone bridges: it is ſtill computed to contain near fifty thouſand inhabitants, though formerly it was much larger. Dr. Buſching thinks the trade of this city is not ſo well improved as it might be for the ſupplying of other countries with olives, oil, wines, very good linen, ſewing ſilk, and woollen ſtuffs.

4. Vicenza, a city about four Italian miles in circuit, containing many fine palaces, fourteen parochial churches, and twenty-nine convents; though nothing particular is related of its commerce.

5. Breſchia has nineteen pariſh churches, forty-five convents, and near fifty thouſand inhabitants. Its commerce is very conſiderable, both for its fire-arms, ſwords, and cutlery-ware, having many iron mines in its neighbourhood Its linen manufactures are alſo in great eſteem.

6. Bergamo is a ſtrong, large, and populous city, famous for its ſewing ſilk, iron mines near it, ſome woollen manufactures, rich wines, good oil, and delicious fruits.

7. Crema, a ſtrong city, in a very fertile valley, having many churches, convents, hoſpitals, and other elegant buildings. It is eminent for its fine thread and linen manufactures, and for its annual fairs.

Here alſo, on this Venetian territory, are ſeveral ſmaller towns, which have ſome inconſiderable commerce.

Along the coaſt of Dalmatia, the Venetians have a narrow ſlip of territory, with ſeveral forts, but they are of no great conſequence in commerce, being purely intended as a barrier on the ſide of Turkey, viz. Zara, Nadin, Novigrad, Sebenico, Gliſſa, Spalatro, Cattaro, which places, however, abound in wines, oils, ſalt, &c.

Caſtel Nuova alſo belongs to Venice, and is a place of ſome commerce.

On the ſame coaſt is the little ariſtocratical republic of Raguſa, tributary to the Grand Seignior, to whom it pays twenty thouſand ſequins annually, of nine ſhillings and two-pence ſterling each. It is a Popiſh ſtate, and its citizens are ſaid to be almoſt all to a man traders, and have fine manufactures: it has ſome few neighbouring towns ſubject to it.

Lower down, in what was anciently called the Ionian Sea, the republic of Venice has ſeveral iſlands, near the coaſts of ancient Greece, which are of conſequence in a commercial ſenſe. As,

1. Zante produces a ſtrong wine, oil, figs, raiſins, currants, and ſalt. Here is a Greek Biſhop, the bulk of its people being of the Greek church. The town of Zante is large and populous, and has a Latin Biſhop, and three convents.

2. Cefalonia is a moſt fruitful iſle, moſt of its fruit trees bearing twice in the year: it produces wine, oils, citrons, oranges, pomegranates and corn; more eſpecially is this iſle famous for currants, dried in the ſun, of which England takes off great quantities annually.

3. Corfu was anciently named Corcyra. Its northern coaſt is fertile in excellent wines, delicious fruits, olives, and grain. It is of great conſequence to the Venetian State, in regard to the Turks, that occaſions their conſtantly keeping an armament in the harbour of the city of Corfu, its capital; which is well fortified, and ſtood out ſucceſsfully a ſevere ſiege by the Turks, in the year 1715. At this city is an archbiſhopric, and an academy of the liberal arts and ſciences.

4. Santa Maura is an iſland extremely fertile in grain, wine, oil, and all the richeſts fruits beforenamed. Its chief and ſtrong town, of the ſame name, contains five or ſix thouſand inhabitants. There are ſeveral other ſmaller and inconſiderable iſles; but of very little importance.

LUCCA.

The ſmall free republic of Lucca lies on the Tuſcan Sea: it is in compaſs about thirty Italian miles, and contains about one hundred and twenty thouſand people in the city and its one hundred and fifty ſmall towns and villages. Its induſtry is extremely great, in improving every ſpot of its territory to the utmoſt advantage. It abounds in wines, oils, fruits, &c. And, according to Mr. Keyſler, its entire annual revenue may amount to eighty thouſand pounds ſterling. Her military force conſiſts of ſeventy-ſix Switzers for the guard of the palace, and of five hundred other ſoldiers.

The city of Lucca, the ſeat of its government, lies in a delightful plain, charmingly diverſified with villages, ſeats, ſummer houſes, vineyards, meadows, and corn fields. It contains above forty thouſand inhabitants, whereof a great part are artiſans and manufacturers, more eſpecially in ſilk goods, in which Lucca carries on a very conſiderable trade. And their olives and oil are deemed the beſt in Italy.

TUSCANY.

The grand dutchy of Tuſcany adjoins to the Pope's territories, and is about one hundred and ſixteen Engliſh miles in length, and eighty in breadth. It is a moſt delightful country, abounding in grain, oil, wines, oranges, lemons, and all other kinds of rich fruits. It has ſalt pits, alabaſter, lapis lazuli, borax, amethyſts, jaſper, marble, cornelians, quickſilver, &c.

1. Florence, its capital, is a large, moſt beautiful, and ſtill flouriſhing city, moſt delightfully ſituated between mountains covered with olive trees, vineyards, farms, ſeats, and villages, divided into two nearly equal parts by the Arno; which, with the four ſtone and marble bridges over it, enhances the beautiful appearance of the city, which contains about nine thouſand houſes, many of which are beautiful ſtone edifices. It has ſeventeen market places, ſeven fountains, ſix columns, two pyramids, one hundred and ſixty public ſtatues, forty-four pariſh churches, twelve priories, fifty-four convents, twenty-four eccleſiaſtical fraternities, thirty-ſeven hoſpitals, and its inhabitants are computed to be at leaſt ſeventy thouſand; but others make them many more. To deſcribe, at large, the beauties of its churches, and more eſpecially of the Grand Duke's palace, both without and within, is not our immediate province. It was formerly a larger and more opulent city than at preſent; its now greateſt trade conſiſting chiefly in woollen and ſilk manufactures.

2. Piſa, on the Arno, is a decayed city, now only conſiſting of about ſeventeen thouſand inhabitants; although ſo far back as the eleventh century, it was computed to contain one hundred and fifty thouſand. Some buſineſs is ſtill carried on in it, on account of its being the place where the gallies are built. Its exchange is a fine edifice, but there is little buſineſs done there. Between Piſa and Leghorn is a canal of ſixteen Italian miles in length, for the convenience of traffic as well as for draining the moraſſes.

3. Leghorn is a handſome city, built in the modern taſte, and on account of its being interſected with canals, is termed the New Venice. Its inhabitants are computed to be forty thouſand; of which it is ſaid half the number are Jews: the greateſt part of its commerce going through their hands. The trade of this famous port is extremely conſiderable; and is greatly promoted by the freedom of its port, its ſovereigns having fully experienced the ſubſtantial benefits thereof. Proteſtants, it is true, are not here allowed the public exerciſe of their religion: yet all ſects are connived at; and the Engliſh being, of all foreign nations, the beſt cuſtomers to Leghorn, are allowed

to have a chaplain to their factory there; which, in Mr. Keyſler's time, in the year 1730, conſiſted of thirty-ſix families. The Proteſtants of other nations reſort to chaplains of ſhips.

4. Sienna is a moderately large city, with an univerſity: it ſtands in a healthful air; yet, though its houſes are elegantly built, it is but thin of inhabitants, who ſcarcely amount to ſeventeen thouſand, with little trade. It was once a free republic, and a place of conſiderable commerce, till vanquiſhed by the Spaniards, in the year 1554, and by them ſold to the Duke of Florence.

PAPAL TERRITORY.

The ſtate of the church, or Papal territory, in general, conſiſts of a very fertile ſoil. Its harbours, both on the Adriatic and Tuſcan Seas, are very advantageouſly ſituated for commerce. The Pope receives conſiderable emoluments from foreign parts; though theſe are curtailing every day;—his dominions are viſited by numbers of foreigners, who expend much money there;—and, on account of the ſuppoſed ſacredneſs of his perſon and character, his government ſhould ſeem moſt eligible, and beſt calculated for the welfare of his ſubjects: upon the conſideration of theſe, and various other points, (ſays Dr. Buſching as many others have ſaid before him) one would be apt to imagine, that, of all countries, this ought to be the moſt flouriſhing and fortunate, were not (even but on a curſory inſpection) the very reverſe moſt manifeſt. The country is but ill cultivated, very poor, and thin of inhabitants, the city of Bologna alone excepted.—Trade and manufactures totally ſtagnate: and, were it not for the bounty of Providence, which ſupplies the inhabitants with dates, almonds, figs, olives, and other fruits, and the fruits growing ſpontaneouſly, and without the culture of the inhabitants, who have both bread and wine with but little labour, their ſloth would abſolutely ſtarve them.

Their ſmall inclination and ſpirit for labour is not to be wondered at, as they know, that if they have much, much will be taken from them; and that, in the end, nothing will be left them. The many holidays, which are ſo great an impediment to trade and buſineſs;—the great number of young ſturdy beggars ſtrolling about, and burdening the inhabitants, under the appearance of pilgrims;—the many hoſpitals, which confirm the people in idleneſs;—the multitudes of convents, like ſo many neſts of drones that obſtruct the increaſe of inhabitants;—the inconceivable wealth of churches and convents, which lies dormant without the leaſt advantage to the public;—the inquiſition, which will not permit the want of inhabitants to be ſupplied by thoſe of another religion; are ſome of the great cauſes of the wretched condition of the Papal dominions; although there be others attended with ſtill worſe conſequences.

No government equals the Papal in rigour; the temporal ſword being not only uſed, but alſo, on ſeveral occaſions, the ſpiritual one, or the formidable inquiſition.—Nothing is ſo monſtrous as the paſſion by which moſt Popes, Cardinals, and Prelates, have been carried away for the enriching and promoting of their nephews and other relations! And nothing is ſo vain as the ambition of gaining for themſelves a great name, by founding of convents and churches. The regular clergy vie with each other, in the number, ſplendor, and riches of their convents and churches; but it is from the bowels of the poor inhabitants that the money is generally extracted for the ſupport of this rivalſhip. The legates, governors, and other inferior officers in the provinces, knowing that the duration of their offices are but ſhort and uncertain, ſcruple at no kind of rapaciouſneſs. From all which cauſes, it can no longer be a ſubject of ſurprize, if, throughout the whole world, there is not a more wretched people than the Pope's temporal ſubjects.

The

The extent of the Pope's temporal dominions, from ſouth to north, is about two hundred and forty Engliſh miles, and the breadth, in ſome parts, is one hundred and twenty, and in others ſcarce twenty of thoſe miles. The certain annual income of the Pope is generally computed at eight millions ſeven hundred thouſand ſcudi. Yet, ſays Dr. Buſching, it is no ſecret, that, in the year 1741, the Pope was indebted no leſs than fifty-ſix millions of ſcudi.

In the Papal territories are ſeveral legations or governments, viz.

I. Bolonia, or Bologna, is ſaid to contain three hundred and eight towns and villages.

Bologna, its capital, is, next to Rome, the fineſt, beſt, and richeſt city in all the eccleſiaſtical ſtate; having many fine palaces, churches, and convents, and is ſo populous, that its inhabitants amount to upwards of eighty thouſand. This city's having long ſince voluntarily ſubmitted to the See of Rome, has hitherto procured her the great benefit of having no citadel in it;—alſo, that the effects of its citizens ſhall, on no pretext, be liable to confiſcation;—and that, in commemoration of their former condition of having been a free republic, their coin is ſtill ſtamped with the word *libertas*; and they ſtill enjoy ſome other peculiar privileges. There is a vaſt quantity of ſilk twiſted in the mills on the river Reno, which runs through the city. Its manufactures of damaſks, ſattins, velvets, taffaties, and crapes, are in great repute. It alſo carries on a conſiderable trade in flax, hemp, oil, wine, walnut-tree work, marmalade, eſſences of all kinds, brandy, ſoap, ſnuff, rock-chryſtal, toys, artificial flowers, and fruits. In one word, Bologna, in a commercial ſenſe, is the glory and pride of the Papal territory. It has, likewiſe, a famous univerſity.

II. In the dutchy of Ferrara, the river Po diſcharges itſelf, by ſeveral mouths, into the Adriatic.

Ferrara, its capital, is a large, but poor and deſolate city on the Po, ſaid to have more houſes than inhabitants, for want of trade and manufactures, ever ſince it fell under the dominion of the Papacy. Yet it has many handſome churches, convents, houſes, and palaces; and its ſtreets are broad and clean. It is an archbiſhopric and an univerſity, and was a noble and populous city under its own dukes. Here are ſeveral ſmall market towns in this dutchy.

III. Romagna, in which is the once famous city of

Ravenna, an archbiſhopric, and, though now mean and inconſiderable, ſcarcely containing fifteen thouſand inhabitants, was anciently a famous port on the Adriatic Sea; but, though ſtanding on the very ſame ſpot, is now near three Italian miles from the ſea, occaſioned by vaſt quantities of mud, thrown up by the tide, and, in proceſs of time, forming what was once its celebrated harbour into a tract of cultivated land. Yet, poor as it now is, it has no fewer than twenty-four convents, beſide many churches, &c. Its houſes are old and ruinous, and ſtreets naſty.

Imola, Faenza, and Ceſena are ſmaller places, with many eccleſiaſtical edifices, but no trade; and the like may be ſaid of the reſt of the places of the legateſhip. At Rimini, its harbour is choaked up with mud in like ſort as that of Ravenna.

IV. The dutchy of Urbino contains,

Urbino, its capital, which, though not very large, is the reſidence of the Pope's legate, and of an archbiſhopric; and contains many churches and convents: and here is ſtill to be ſeen the fine palace of its former Dukes.

Peſaro is a handſome ſea port, pretty well inhabited, and has many fine churches, convents, and palaces; it is noted for the beſt figs in all Italy, and for very good wine: and Fano is a ſea port for ſmall veſſels, which is all that can be ſaid of any place in this dutchy.

V. Ancona is a ſea port on the Adriatic; and, though neither ſmall nor unhandſome, yet has much leſs commerce, and is leſs populous and wealthy than, from its happy ſituation and its good harbour, might reaſonably be expected, were it in any other Potentate's poſſeſſion. Its commerce, however, begins to revive, ſince the Pope has made it a free port. It has an elegant exchange for merchants:

merchants: it is ſaid to produce, in its neighbourhood, the beſt and fineſt flax of any part of Europe. Its commerce, for the greater part, is managed by about five thouſand Jews, who have a ſynagogue here. And perſons of all religions enjoy here all freedom, excepting the public exerciſe of their worſhip. It has forty-five churches, convents, and hoſpitals; and, although its trade be not very conſiderable, it has more the appearance of a commercial city than any other ſea port in the dominions of the papacy.

Fabriano, though called only a village, is equal to many cities; as it has two collegiate churches, ſeventeen convents, ſixteen churches of religious fraternities, two alms-houſes, and three hoſpitals; and is famous for a paper manufacture. To what purpoſe would it be for us to give an account of ſo great a number of other ſmall cities and towns within the Pope's territories, as there is nothing of trade or manufactures to be found in them, nor any thing elſe worthy of mention, but their being crouded with churches, chapels, and monaſteries, where the clergy live in the greateſt plenty, and the miſerable laity in poverty and ſloth, although the vicinity of ſuch places do moſtly abound with excellent wines, fruits, corn, &c. chiefly for the uſe of the clergy. Out of many inſtances of this ſort, which might be produced, Viterbo is one, which ſcarcely contains fifteen thouſand inhabitants, and yet has no fewer than ſixty-nine churches, convents, and hoſpitals.

Civita Vecchia, however, may be mentioned, as being properly the ſea-port of Rome, near the mouth of the Tiber, and the ſtation for the Pope's gallies, being ſtrongly fortified: yet, having little or no commerce, it is but thinly inhabited; and has a bad air, and a want of good water.

The Campania, or territory of the city of Rome, is bleſſed with a moſt fertile ſoil; but for want of due cultivation, the lay-inhabitants are wretchedly poor.

Rome, its matchleſs capital, may even now be ſaid to be the moſt marvellous city on earth, in reſpect of antiquities, curioſities, pompous ornaments, ſuperb palaces, magnificent churches, and many grand monaſteries: it is alſo the grand reſort of profeſſors in all the fine arts, being the centre and ſtaple of all that is elegant in ſculpture, painting, architecture, &c. Such grand embelliſhments may be truly ſaid to make modern Rome ſurpaſs even ancient Rome in all its glory, although the latter was vaſtly more populous, and alſo ſtood on a much greater compaſs of ground than the former. Dr. Buſching acquaints us, that, in the year 1714, a liſt was taken of all the inhabitants of Rome, whoſe number was found to be one hundred and forty-three thouſand; yet Mr. Keyſler, in the year 1731, computes them to amount to one hundred and ſixty-three thouſand one hundred and fifty-ſix. It is reckoned ten Italian miles in circumference, yet ſcarce half that ſpace is built. Beſide its wonderfully grand Papal bazilic of St. Peter, which is ſuperior to any thing of the kind in the world, and many collegiate churches, it contains eighty pariſh churches, beſide many chapels, and above thirty alms-houſes: moſt of its houſes are of brick; but thoſe of the better ſort have the doors, windows, and ſupporters of free-ſtone. Upwards of two-thirds of its houſes are the property of churches, convents, and alms-houſes; to which new purchaſes are continually making. Its ſtreets are well paved, but neither carefully kept clean, nor illuminated. But it is not our intention ſo much as to attempt a deſcription of the beauties of this city, which would require an entire treatiſe, nor of its defects. It may however be proper here to remark, that the real ſubſtantial burghers or citizens of Rome are but few in number; and that, conſidering the magnitude of this city, there is but little trade carried on in it. Nevertheleſs, the ſupplying it with neceſſaries, as well for its conſtant inhabitants, as for the vaſt numbers of perſons of rank and fortune continually reſorting to it, and their expence for many various curioſities, cannot fail to occaſion the circulation of much money at Rome.

In this Campania are many ſmall towns, but without the appearance of either commerce or manufactures of almoſt any kind whatever, or of any thing elſe but eccleſiaſtical edifices.

The DOMINIONS *of the* KING *of the* TWO SICILIES.

One of the two Sicilies is beſt known by the name of the kingdom of Naples, and is in length about two hundred and eighty Engliſh miles, and breadth ninety-ſix to one hundred and twenty Engliſh miles. It is a very hot country, with a ſoil extremely fertile in grain, oil, delicious wines and fruits, flax, ſaffron, alum, vitriol, ſulphur, rock chryſtal, glaſs manufactures, variety of minerals, fine wool, a great quantity of ſilk, of which much is exported. The laity here are poor, but the clergy rich, poſſeſſing near two-thirds of the lands of the kingdom; its number of churches and convents being indeed aſtoniſhing.

1. Naples, its ſuperb capital, contains fine and lofty houſes, palaces, churches, convents, &c. and, according to Mr. Keyſler, Dr. Buſching, and others, contains at leaſt three hundred thouſand inhabitants, conſiſting of great numbers of Princes, Dukes, Marquiſes, and other nobility, with their retinues, and a moſt numerous clergy with their dependents, &c. It contains, beſide four capital churches, one hundred and two pariſh churches and chapels, one hundred and thirty chapels of religious fraternities, one hundred and forty-nine convents of both ſexes, thirty-four alms-houſes, eleven hoſpitals, five ſeminaries for eccleſiaſtics; many fine palaces, fountains, ſtatues, &c. and the royal palace, as well as that of the archbiſhop, is ſurprizingly fine. Its harbour is ſpacious, and is much frequented by ſhips of many nations. Naples has good ſilk manufactures, of which they export not a little, and a conſiderable general commerce, for the advancement whereof the Jews were re-admitted in the year 1740: they alſo export oils, ſulphur, manna, roſemary, aniſeed, figs, raiſins, tartar, ſoap, eſſences, good wines, and fine fruits. Naples, though ſcarcely half ſo large as London or Paris, is yet more beautiful than either of them. In its neighbourhood are the iſles of Procita, Iſchia, Niſida, and Capri, producing excellent wines and fruits; and on the continent along the ſea ſhore, are the cities of Gaeta, Capua, Amalphi, Salerno, and many more; having, however, very little commerce, though in ſo fine and fertile a country, and having ſuch excellent materials for it, the city of Naples in a great degree engroſſing all the commerce of the weſtern coaſt; yet ſome of thoſe parts, particularly Amalphi, were, in old times, famous for commerce and navigation.

2. Gallipoli is a ſea port, with ſome real commerce, more eſpecially in the exportation of great quantities of oils.

3. As is likewiſe Otranto.

4. Bari is a handſome and populous city, with a good trade.

SICILY.

The beautiful iſland of Sicily is far from being ſo well cultivated or peopled as it was in ancient times. Its ſoil is extremely fertile, producing much more corn than its people can conſume at home; with much of which, therefore, it ſupplies Naples and other parts. It alſo abounds in excellent wines, fruits, oil, honey, ſalt, ſaffron, and alſo ſugar, chiefly produced in the neighbourhood of Mount Ætna; alſo ſilk in great quantities, gems, and valuable ſtones, as agate, porphyry, jaſper, alabaſter, lapis lazuli, and marble; being alſo rich in metals and minerals, as gold, ſilver, copper, tin, lead, iron: in general, this charming iſland abounds in all things for delight and ornament in the higheſt degree; its coaſts alſo affording a good fiſhery for tunnies, and its paſtures excellent cattle.

1. Palermo, its capital, has a fortified harbour, carries on a briſk trade, and, according to Dr. Buſching, is thought to contain one hundred and twenty thouſand inhabitants; having many churches, ſeventy-four convents, and other charitable foundations.

2. Meſſina, a ſtrong and beautifully built city and ſea port, of conſiderable commerce, containing about twenty thouſand inhabitants, with many churches, convents, and hoſpitals. Its commerce principally conſiſts in corn, good wine, raw and wrought ſilk, oils, and fruits, for exportation.

3. Catanea and Syracuſe, near Mount Ætna, are both ſea ports, but greatly declined, though anciently of great renown.

The ſmall Lipari iſles, on the north ſide of Sicily, have almoſt all of them vulcanos, or burning mountains, yet ſome of them are fertile in wines, fruits, &c.

The iſle of Malta, and Gozo near it, have no commerce, nor corn enough to ſupply its inhabitants, which amount to about ſixty thouſand, above half the year. It is bound, by the grant of the Emperor Charles V. ever ſince the year 1529, to hold perpetual enmity and war with all Mahometan countries. Malta is ſixty miles in compaſs, but very rocky, although many ſhip-loads of earth have been brought to it from Sicily, for meliorating the ſoil. It has therefore neither wine nor wood ſufficient: yet it has cotton, fruits, and honey, good paſtures, and conſiderable fiſheries. It is particularly famous for its oranges.

La Valetta, its principal town, is ſo well fortified that the Turks at length ſeem to deſpair of attacking it with ſucceſs: there are four other ſmall fortified towns lying ſo near La Valetta, that they may all paſs together for one large town. The old decayed town named Malta ſtands in the middle of the iſland.

The iſle of Gozo, ſubject to it, is thirteen Italian miles in circumference, ſtrongly fortified, containing three thouſand people, and ſaid to be very fertile. There is a third ſmall iſle, lying between the other two, and commanding the ſtrait between them, wherefore it is well fortified. This kind of an eccleſiaſtical and military republic is governed by a grand maſter and many knights; of which, and of their ſeveral migrations, we have ſufficiently treated in the body of our work.

SWITZERLAND.

Its entire confederacy, which it is not neceſſary particularly to deſcribe, has been computed to contain two millions of inhabitants; conſiſting of nobility, burghers, and peaſantry. It is needleſs to obſerve, that it is a very mountainous, and, for the moſt part, barren country. Yet they are not without many manufactures of good and very ſtrong linen, which is exported in conſiderable quantities, even as far as England: alſo dimity, thread, lace, and cottons, of the latter of which they make ſtockings, handkerchiefs and gloves: alſo a kind of muſlins and ſtuffs for womens wear. They alſo make divers ſorts of ſilks, velvets, gold and ſilver brocades, ribbons, ſeveral ſorts of woollen manufactures, as druggets, calimancoes, camblets, damaſks, flannels, blankets. They are ſaid both to bleach and dye very well, and to make paper, hats, and leather for all uſes; and in ſome parts alſo they make good clocks and watches, fine earthen ware, and many other things. Thus the ruggedneſs of their country, their ſcarcity of money, and their far-inland ſituation, have neceſſarily prompted them to ſerve themſelves at home with as many neceſſaries as poſſible, whereby they may probably gain a balance, though poſſibly but a ſmall one, from the reſt of Europe in their favour.

Switzerland is ſituated between Germany, France, and Italy, with its navigable lakes and rivers, more eſpecially the Rhine and the Rhone, thereby it may be ſaid to communicate both with the German Ocean and the Mediterranean: the droves of their pack-horſes, for the carriage of merchandize

chandize over their rugged hills, utterly impracticable for wheel carriages, are thought to be no ſmall conveniencies for their traffic. Its chief exports are, cheeſe, butter, ſheep, black cattle, horſes, and ſome wine; alſo diverſe of its before named manufactures, and more eſpecially thoſe of the linen kinds. And its imports are, grain from Germany, hemp, flax, wool, ſalt, American and Aſiatic merchandize, and ſeveral ſorts of manufactures.

The Thirteen Cantons are, in point of importance, viz.

I. The canton of Bern, which forms little leſs than one-third of the entire Helvetic confederacy, and therefore is by far the largeſt of all the cantons, and is alſo the moſt valuable. Its vales yield an exuberance of grain and fruits; and its higher lands, rich paſtures, covered with cattle of all kinds. Its countries bordering on the lakes of Geneva and Neufchâtel yield, more eſpecially, the choiceſt of wines and fruits. This canton is well cultivated, and very populous; contains thirty-nine towns great and ſmall, and above thirteen hundred villages, and its ſubjects are computed to amount to four hundred thouſand. On ordinary occaſions they can ſend out forty thouſand well accoutred men, and on extraordinary ones one hundred thouſand. The city of Bern ſtands on the river Aar, is large, populous, and well built of ſtone; with many fine public ſtructures.

The whole canton is formed into regiments, both horſe and foot: it has an office of ordnance, an arſenal, and an artillery corps. The principal towns along the Lake of Geneva are, Lauſanne, a conſiderable city and univerſity; Vevay, Morges, &c. Arau is noted for being the place of meeting of the Diets of the Proteſtant Cantons.

II. Zurich, next after Bern, is the largeſt and moſt powerful of all the cantons, and is the firſt of all the thirteen cantons in point of precedence. It is capable of bringing near fifty thouſand men into the field, without any detriment either to its agriculture or manufactures.

The city of Zurich is large, polite, opulent, and well fortified; having five churches, an univerſity, and many other fine public edifices. It has all the manufactures and fabricks to be met with in the moſt flouriſhing nations; ſuch as woollen cloths and ſtuffs, crapes, linen, ſilks, velvets, ſtockings of ſilk and cotton, muſlins, lawns, gold and ſilver lace and thread, and founderies for cannon, bells, &c. This canton has many good market-towns, and particularly a large one on the Zurich Lake named Horgen, having a cuſtom-houſe, and an exchange for merchants.

III. The city and canton of Lucern is the chief of the Popiſh cantons, and the uſual reſidence of the Pope's Nuncio. The city has a cathedral, ſeveral pariſh churches, and four monaſteries: it is a great thoroughfare for merchandize paſſing to and from Italy, and conſequently has ſome commerce. Here are ſeveral leſſer towns and many villages.

IV. The ſmall canton of Ury, or Uri, lies in a rugged country, yet abounding in cattle, &c.—Altorff, the ſeat of government, is well-built, has a provincial armoury and granary, though no otherwiſe conſiderable in a commercial ſenſe, though it has ſeveral market-towns, and many villages.

V. The little canton of Schuitz, though, on account of its antiquity, giving name to the entire confederacy, has not properly any walled town, but merely a few burghs and villages. It is a rugged country like that of Uri. Switz, its capital, has only one church and three convents.

VI. Underwalden is alſo a ſmall canton, has fine fruits and cattle, rich paſtures, and fertile vallies: it has none but market-towns and villages. Stantz is its capital town, but has nothing memorable.

VII. The very ſmall canton of Zug has fine paſtures, a ſufficiency of grain, ſome wine, plenty of fruits, and an immenſe quantity of cheſnuts, with which they ſupply the neighbouring countries. Zug, its capital, has one pariſh church, a priory, and two convents; but nothing elſe worthy of remark.

VIII. The canton of Glaris is a rugged and mountainous country ; graſiery is its principal buſineſs, abounding in black cattle, horſes, ſheep, cheeſe, butter, and tallow. It has ſome manufactures of coarſe woollen cloth and cottons. The major part of its people are Calviniſts, the reſt Romaniſts ; whereas the five immediately preceding cantons are entirely Popiſh.—Glaris, its capital, has but one church, equally uſed by both religions, and is no way conſiderable. Here are ſeveral other ſmall towns and villages.

IX. The ſmall canton of Baſil, or Baſel, called alſo by the French Baſle or Bâle, abounds in corn and wine, though in ſome parts it is rugged and mountainous, yet it has fine paſtures and cattle. It is entirely Proteſtant; and has three towns, and twenty-ſeven pariſhes. Baſil, its capital, is the largeſt city in all Switzerland, ſituated in a fertile country on both ſides the Rhine. It is well fortified, has many churches, an univerſity, and other fine public ſtructures ; and is, in general, a truly polite and very fine city.

In this city moſt of the manufactures mentioned in the introduction to Switzerland are carried on ; ſo that, with its wines and other productions, &c. and likewiſe its happy ſituation between France and Germany, Baſil poſſeſſes a conſiderable traffic. They pretend here, that our preſent rag paper was firſt made at Baſil, in the year 1417. Its ſmall towns and villages are ſaid to contain many curioſities and antiquities.

X. The canton of Friburg is almoſt environed with the great canton of Bern. It produces plenty of grain and fruits, and alſo ſome wine, much black cattle, and cheeſe, exported in great quantities to France and other countries. The town of Friburg contains ſeveral churches and monaſteries, though nothing elſe memorable, no more than its other ſmall towns and villages, particularly relative to commerce.

XI. The canton of Solothurn, by the French named Soleure, contains two towns and four burghs. It is entirely Popiſh, excepting one diſtrict, which is Calviniſt. The town of Soleure, or Solothurn, its capital, ſtands in a fertile and pleaſant country, is well fortified, has a collegiate church, a college, two convents, and an arſenal. It is the uſual reſidence of the Envoy of France to the Helvetic body ; of which, and of its leſſer towns, villages, and caſtles, there is nothing farther worthy of relation.

XII. The canton of Schafhouſen is entirely Calviniſt or Proteſtant; is a ſmall canton and almoſt ſurrounded by Swabia. It produces corn, good red wine, and paſturage. It has but two towns and nineteen pariſhes, beſide the capital Schafhouſen, which contains five churches, and an illuſtrious ſchool: which is all that it is neceſſary to be ſaid of this canton, and its towns and villages.

XIII. The canton of Appenzell produces good corn, wine, cyder, perry, and flax, and has good paſtures. According to Dr. Buſching, in this canton there are no towns, (*i. e.* as generally underſtood by the Germans, &c. having walls and gates) and but eight burghs and villages, the other parts containing ſcattered houſes. The entire canton contains but twenty-three pariſhes, whereof four, and alſo two chapels, are Popiſh, and nineteen churches are Calviniſt. The Calviniſt parts of this canton manufacture many thouſand pieces of linen, which are exported to France, Italy, Spain, and Germany ; and the thread ſpun here is of ſuch fineneſs as to be ſold for upwards of ſixteen guilders per pound weight: here alſo are made crape, fuſtian, and woollen cloth : and from hence are exported cheeſe, cattle, horſes, wood, and pit-coal. The town of Appenzell has one church, two monaſteries, an armory, and town-houſe.

XIV. Territories in Switzerland, ſubject to two or more of the thirteen cantons jointly, viz.

1. The country of Thurgau borders on the lake of Conſtance, or Coſtanz, according to Dr. Buſching, is populous, contains ſix towns, ſeveral burghs, and one hundred and ſeventy villages ; has

a third part of its inhabitants Popiſh, and two-thirds are Calviniſts, conſtituting forty-nine pariſhes. This country is ſubject to the eight ancient cantons: it produces grain, wine, and fruits.—Frauenfeld is its chief town, having two churches, one for Calviniſts, and one for Romaniſts. The other numerous ſmall towns and villages contain nothing remarkable.

2. The country of Reinthal, bordering on the Rhine, where that river enters the lake of Conſtance, is fertile, producing excellent wine and great quantities of chryſtal; it has but two towns, and moſt of its people are Calviniſts. It is ſubject to the nine ſenior cantons, conjointly with the Abbot of St. Gall.—Rheineck, a ſmall town, is its chief place.

3. The country of Sargans lies on the Rhine, and has two towns, of which Sargans is the beſt, though not large. It is ſubject to the eight oldeſt cantons: is partly Calviniſt, and partly Popiſh. It produces cattle, grain, and fruits.

4. The country of Gaſter borders on Sargans, is ſubject to the cantons of Switz and Glaris; but contains nothing memorable.

5. The country of Utznach is alſo ſubject to the ſaid two cantons; as is alſo the country of Gambs; neither of which are any way memorable.

6. The town and precinct of Rapperſchweil, ſubject to the cantons of Zurich and Bern. The town has ſome fortifications.

7. The county of Baden lies on the weſt ſide of the canton of Zurich, ſubject to Zurich, Bern, and Glaris; has three towns, and abounds in iron, grain, fruits, and good wine. Baden, its capital, is a fortified town, having two churches, and two convents. It is the uſual place for holding the general diets or aſſemblies of all the cantons; and is moſtly Popiſh, intermixed with ſome Calviniſts. Here are ſeveral burghs and many villages.

8. There are many other diſtricts, called here Free Amts, belonging, for the moſt part, to the eight ſenior cantons, and containing many ſmall burghs or parochial villages. The fortified towns of Bremgarten and Millengen are alſo ſubject to two or more of the thirteen cantons; as are alſo the diſtricts of Swartſenburg, Morat, Granſon, Eſchalens, Bellenz, the ſeven Italian diſtricts, Poleze, the valley of Blegno, the territory on the lake Lugano, formerly belonging to the Dutchy of Milan, in Italy, which has one hundred and ſix populous burghs and villages; that of Luggarus, partly on the lake Maggiore, and partly on that of Loccarno; that of Menthal, or the valley of Maggia; that of Mendriſio, Engelberg Abbey, and Gerſau.

XV. The aſſociated countries and places, viz. ſuch as are always ſummoned to the legiſlative diets, in quality of allies, and have a vote therein.

1. The abbey of St. Gall, lying within the town of that name, though divided from it by high walls, to which it has one gate. The Abbot is a Prince of the Empire. His territories within Switzerland are,

Firſt, The territory called of God's Houſe, lying north of the Griſons country, conſiſting of ſeveral villages entirely Popiſh.

Secondly, The country of Toggenburg, half Popiſh and half Proteſtant, having one ſmall town and ſeveral parochial villages.

Thirdly, The city of St. Gall, whoſe inhabitants are Calviniſts, having three churches, and a conſiderable linen trade.

2. The town of Biel, called Bienne by the French, ſtands near the lake of Biel; and, though within the biſhopric of Baſil, is however Calviniſt, and has a vote in the General Diets, next to the city of St. Gall. It has ſeveral villages under its juriſdiction.

3. The Three Unions, or *Trois Droitures*, of the Griſons, border eaſtward on the territories of Venice and Milan. It is a mountainous country, though with many fruitful vallies which produce grain, fruits, cattle, and ſome wine. It has three towns, and many burghs and villages. Here both the Romiſh and Calviniſt religions are equally eſtabliſhed, though thoſe of the latter are more numerous than the former, who are under the Biſhop of Chur or Coir.

Theſe three confederacies, called here, Bunds, form one united republic, and have their proper magiſtrates and other officers, whoſe extraordinary aſſemblies are always held at Chur; where, likewiſe, is kept the record-office of this republic; but the annual general diets are held alternately at Chur, Ilanz, and Davos, when they treat of their domeſtic concerns, as well as their concerns with foreign nations, and with their allies of the Switz republic.

The Griſons maintain no troops; yet, as they furniſh foreign powers with regiments, they are never without officers and ſoldiers of experience: ſo that, on any emergency, all the three Bunds can bring thirty thouſand men into the field.

The principal defence of the moſt part of Switzerland, and more particularly of the Griſons, conſiſts in their narrow paſſes and high mountains; in which a few men can make head againſt a conſiderable army. The Griſons have under their ſubjection the Italian countries of the Valtelin, Chiavenna, Bormio, &c. as their proper vaſſals, though under certain regulations and particular conſtitutions.

Amongſt the Griſons, both the Italian and German dialects are uſed; and Dr. Buſching is of opinion, that the German language is continually growing more and more into vogue, probably proceeding from that language being uſed in their general ſtate aſſemblies and public inſtruments.

Chur, or Coir, is an epiſcopal city, near the uppermoſt Rhine, and is not only the capital of one of the three Bunds, named of God's Houſe, but alſo of the whole republic of the Griſons; it is alſo a fortified city: its neighbourhood is finely diverſified with vineyards, orchards, and corn-fields of ſome extent. The inhabitants of the city are all Calviniſts, and have three churches: for the cathedral, the biſhop's palace, and prebendal houſes, ſtand on an eminence without the city, incloſed with walls and gates. Through Chur paſs merchandize between Germany and Italy.

IV. The country of Valais lies on the ſouth of the canton of Bern, and of the lake of Geneva, and is a confederate of the Switz republic; and, though mountainous, abounds in excellent corn, and the fineſt fruits. Sitten, called Sion by the French, its chief town, is ſituated near the Upper Rhone, and is a biſhop's ſee, having ſeveral churches and convents.

V. Mulhauſen, a town of the Suntgau in Alſace, about ſix hours journey, ſays Buſching, diſtant from the city of Baſil, is a Calviniſt town of two churches, and has a ſmall dependent village.

VI. The principality of Neuenberg, better known by the French name, of the ſame ſignification, of Neufchâtel, and of Vallangin, is ſituated on the weſt ſide of the county of Burgundy; and though mountainous, its eminences, vales, and levels, abound in fine red and white wine, fruits, corn, hemp, and flax. It contains three towns, one burgh, and twenty-five pariſhes, with ten chapels of eaſe, ſixty-four villages, beſide ſcattered houſes. It is moſtly Proteſtant, and the language is a corrupt French. The King of Pruſſia is ſovereign of this principality; but, as being an ally or confederate of the Switz cantons, or rather of the canton of Bern, it has therefore remained ſafe and neuter in the late wars.

The town of Neufchâtel ſtands on the lake of that name, and has two churches, and a gymnaſium or univerſity; and Vallangin is the chief town of its lordſhip.

VII. The very ſmall free republic of Geneva is, by its compacts with Bern and Zurich, reckoned an aſſociate of the Helvetic body.

Geneva is a moderately large, handſome, and well-fortified city, at the efflux of the Rhone, out of the extenſive lake of that name, containing about thirty thouſand inhabitants. That river divides it into three unequal parts, which communicate by four bridges. The inhabitants are moſtly Calviniſts, having ſix churches, one chapel, and a celebrated univerſity.—The purity of its air, the politeneſs of its inhabitants,—the great reſort of perſons paſſing through it to and from Germany, France, and Italy,—the number of foreign young gentlemen reſiding in it for academical ſtudies, &c. —and the quantity of its fine manufactures, fabrics, and works of art and curioſity, all contribute to make Geneva exceedingly delightful. Without its walls are ſeveral parochial villages and country-ſeats, in a charming country.

VIII. Laſtly, in the Biſhop of Baſil's temporalities, within Switzerland, lie,

1. The town of Bienne, or Biel.

2. The ſmall town of Neuenſtadt; and alſo ſundry villages: they are all Calviniſts, and allies of the Canton of Bern.

HUNGARY.

This kingdom exports excellent wines, oil, ſaffron; metals of gold, ſilver, iron, copper, lead, and other minerals; alſo cattle, leather, wool, tallow, wax, &c.

1. Preſburg, its modern capital, becauſe ſo near Auſtria, has ſundry churches and convents, but little commerce.

2. Buda, its ancient capital, is much decreaſed in trade and ſplendour; as is alſo Peſt, on the oppoſite ſide of the Danube; but they are both well fortified.

3. Tokai, or Tockay, is a conſiderable town, celebrated for the rich wines in its vicinity, which, in flavour and ſtrength, exceed all the wines in Hungary.

Many of the towns of Hungary, which were formerly eminent, are in our days much decayed, by means of the wars with the Turks; and the greateſt part of their modern trade conſiſts in their excellent mines and various minerals, whereby many of their towns entirely ſubſiſt, and are therefore named Mine-towns. They have likewiſe ſome excellent drugs, and alſo numerous vineyards.

Tranſylvania is uſually reckoned an appendage of Hungary; its chief exports are metals and ſalt to Hungary. It is divided into ſeveral ſmall diſtricts, called palatinates and counties, and its inhabitants are compoſed of Saxons, Sicilians, and Hungarians.

1. Clauſenburg is a large, ſtrong, and populous town.

2. Weiſſenburg, a ſtrong and well built city; the capital.

3. Hermanſtadt is alſo a large, ſtrong, and well built city.

But of any particular commerce in thoſe cities, we can ſay very little.

The province of Sclavonia lies between the rivers Drave and Save. It is divided into ſix counties, viz. Poſegra, Zabrab, Creis, Waraſden, Zreim, and Walpon. The eaſtern part is called Ratzia, and the inhabitants Ratzians.

Carlowitz, its capital, is noted for its good wine.

The country of Croatia lies between the Save and the Adriatic Sea, but has very few, if any towns of commerce in it; for its chief town, Carlſtadt, founded by Charles, Arch-duke of Auſtria, who alſo fortified it, is merely a military ſtation, for the ſecurity of other parts of the Houſe of Auſtria's adjacent dominions.

TURKEY IN EUROPE.

The number of its people is greatly diſproportioned, both to the extent and to the goodneſs of the country. This defect is principally attributed,

Firſt, To its frequent peſtilences.

Secondly, To the practice of polygamy, or their having many wives.

Thirdly, To the frequent wars of the Turks: and,

Fourthly, To the avarice and oppreſſion of the governors of its cities and provinces.

Yet they have ſome fine manufactures, and the inland commerce between its ſeveral provinces is very conſiderable, but is chiefly managed by Jews and Armenians; and their commerce with Chriſtian nations is entirely paſſive, *i. e.* is managed by thoſe nations, *viz.* Engliſh, Dutch, French, Italian, Swediſh, &c. ſhips, reſorting to the Turkiſh ports, to fetch away different commodities, in exchange for thoſe of their reſpective countries.

The exports of Turkey are ſilk, raw and wrought; carpets, goats-hair, and wool; blue, red, and yellow Morocco leather; camels-hair, cotton-yarn, dimity, burdets, waxed-linen, ſhagreen-ſkins; gums, opium, galls, and other drugs for dying, painting, and phyſic; maſtic, emery, Lemnian bole, pomegranate ſhells, ſponges; dates, almonds, coffee, rhubarb, turpentine, ſtorax, wine, oil, figs, raiſins, mother-of-pearl, box-wood, ſaffron, wax, &c.—And Turkey takes from England much woollen cloth and ſtuffs, tin, lead, iron-ware, ſugar, and other merchandize of both the Eaſt and Weſt Indies; and ſome think alſo bullion.

1. The capital of the Ottoman empire is the illuſtrious and ever-memorable city of Conſtantinople, the Byzantium of the ancients, ſtanding on a ſmall neck of land, at the eaſtern extremity of the province of Romania. Dr. Buſching makes it contain eight hundred thouſand inhabitants, for which computation he quotes Otter; of this number he makes the Greeks to be four hundred thouſand, and the Armenians not half ſo many; the reſt are Turks and Jews: yet other authors, for the moſt part, do not make the people of Conſtantinople to exceed ſix hundred thouſand. The circumference of this city is by ſome ſaid to be fifteen, and by Mr. Tournefort twenty-three miles; to which if we add the ſuburbs, it may be thirty-four miles in compaſs. The ſuburb of Pera is charmingly ſituated, and is the reſidence of the foreign ambaſſadors. They reckon that there are three thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſtreets, ſmall and great, though moſtly narrow, and very defective in cleanlineſs: and its harbour, which is very large, is capable of holding twelve hundred ſhips. The public buildings, ſuch as the palaces, moſques, bagnios, and caravanſaries, for the entertainment of ſtrangers, are many of them very magnificent, particularly the ſuperb temple of St. Sophia, which is now turned into a moſque, and greatly ſurpaſſes the reſt in grandeur and majeſty.

2. Adrianople, an inland city, is the next, in point of magnitude, to Conſtantinople: it lies in Romania, and its ſituation on the river Maritz has drawn thither people from various nations on a commercial account.

3. Salonichi, the ancient Theſſalonica, is a celebrated trading city, ſituated at the bottom of a bay of the ſame name, and is the capital of Macedonia: beſide its great naval commerce, it has many noble remains of its ancient grandeur. Here are ſaid to be above twenty Jews ſynagogues.

4. Scutari, in Albania, enjoys a large trade, and is well fortified.

5. Dulcigno, on the Adriatic Sea, is a ſtrong town, with a good harbour. Its people have been noted for maritime depredations.

6. Lariſſa,

6. Lariſſa, in Theſſaly, is a conſiderable trading city, on the river Peneus.

7. Livadia is a large populous town on the Gulph of Lepanto, and has ſome conſiderable commerce.

8. Athens has ſeveral traces remaining of its former ſplendour; but its inhabitants, at preſent, do not exceed ten thouſand.

The iſlands of Negropont and Candia are fine countries, but with very little commerce ſince they have been in poſſeſſion of the Turks, any more than the numerous iſles in the Archipelago; wherein, however, excellent wines, and many other rich productions abound, and might be extremely conducive to commerce, if in the poſſeſſion of any people but the Turks; but a minute deſcription of them ſeems ſuperfluous.

The province of Servia, lying to the north of the rivers Danube and Save, does not contain any town of eminence except Belgrade, its capital, a very ſtrongly fortified place, on the frontiers of Hungary, and where the Turks conſtantly keep a numerous garriſon.

To the weſt of Servia lies the province of Bulgaria: its principal towns are Viddin, Sophia, Nicopoli, and Siliſtria; but none of them are remarkable for commerce.

The province of Boſnia is ſituated to the eaſt of Servia, and is governed by a Beglerbeg: its chief town is Bagni-Aluch.

The countries in Europe which are tributary to the Ottoman Porte are,

I. The province of Wallachia, whoſe inhabitants are of the Greek church, lies next the frontiers of Poland.

1. Targoviſta, its capital, is a town of good trade.

2. Buchoreſt, a ſtrong place, the uſual reſidence of its tributary Prince, called the Waywode. It is an archiepiſcopal ſee; and herein is an academy for the ſons of perſons of quality.

II. Moldavia, next to Wallachia, has alſo a tributary Prince, called the Waywode, or Hoſpodar; and the Greek church is the prevailing religion.

1. Jaſſy, its capital, ſtands on the river Pruth, and is a ſpacious and ſtrong town. It is in a neighbourhood abounding in wine.

2. Choczim is a ſtrong frontier town on the river Nieſter.

There are ſeveral colonies or tribes of Tartars, even in Europe, who are ſettled in a winding track of country along the Black Sea and the Sea of Azoph, from the moſt northern branch of the mouth of the Danube to the river Don, being parts of ancient European Scythia. Some of theſe tribes wander about in hords or clans, whilſt others are ſettled in towns and villages. Some alſo are immediately dependent on the Ottoman Porte, and others are ſubject to the Cham of Crim Tartary, who is himſelf a vaſſal of the Grand Signior. Dr. Buſching acknowledges, That he has not been able to procure any credible accounts of the reſpective limits of the Turkiſh ſovereignty; and therefore he chuſes to leave that point in ſuſpence, rather than to determine blindly; as we ſhall do likewiſe.

Beſſarabia, a country along the weſt ſide of the Black Sea, is alſo called Budziac Tartary. The people are moſtly wandering hords along the Nieſter; their uſual food being the fleſh of their oxen and horſes, cheeſe and milk, particularly that of mares.

1. Kili, or Kilia Nova, is alſo one of their beſt towns, at the mouth of the northern or largeſt branch of the Danube, where its people are employed in the making of ſalt.

2. Bender, a ſtrong fortification on the Nieſter.

3. Oczakow is a ſtrong place at the mouth of the Nieper.

The European Nagay Tartars are wandering hords between the Nieper and the mouth of the river Don.

The Crimea is a peninſula nearly of ſhape and magnitude to the Morea. Its beſt town is named Precop, a ſtrong place, on the iſthmus which joins that peninſula to the continent.

Caffa is ſtill a large trading ſea-port town, and whilſt the Genoeſe held it, viz. till it was taken by the Turks, in the year 1474, its commerce exceeded even that of Conſtantinople itſelf. It has ſtill five or ſix thouſand houſes, and is well garriſoned; but its trade is much decayed.

Bactchéſerai, on the weſt ſide of this peninſula, is the Cham's place of reſidence, where he has a large palace; and, though the town be unfortified, it is the beſt built of any in this peninſula.

☞ It is here neceſſary to remark, that ſince the period at which the above account of European Turkey was written, conſiderable changes have happened with reſpect to the poſſeſſions of the Ottoman Porte, eſpecially in relation to the Crimea, or Taurica Cherſoneſus; which, at the treaty of Kainardgi, concluded in 1774, was ceded to the Ruſſians, and has ever ſince been in their poſſeſſion; though it is now again reclaimed by the Sublime Porte: on which account theſe two powerful empires are now, in all probability, on the eve of a bloody and expenſive war.

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AN

ALPHABETICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL

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COMPREHENDING

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BRITISH MUSEUM

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